

**LOVE
EXPERIENCES**

APR. 10c

Love

Experiences



LOVELESS BRIDE

CHAINED TO A DREAM

and other true-to-life romances



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OUR MARINES' LIFELINE to the sea was in danger. A Communist force of 4,000 men had seized the key hill overlooking Hagaru-ri in the desperate Chosin Reservoir fighting. The hill had to be taken. But there were no combat forces available.

Lieutenant Colonel Myers, then a major, rallied together clerks, cooks, and other service personnel, and led a makeshift unit of 250 men in an assault up the snow-covered 600-foot hill. Lacking combat officers and non-coms, Colonel Myers ranged the entire attacking front, leading his outnumbered forces upward in the face of murderous fire concentrated on him. After 14 hours of struggle, the enemy was routed, the hill captured, and the route to the sea secured. Colonel Myers says:

"When a handful of men can help turn the tide of history, just think of the invincible strength of 150 million people working toward a common goal—a secure America! That's what you, and millions of people like you, are accomplishing with your successful 50-billion-dollar investment in U.S. Defense Bonds.

"Peace doesn't just happen—it requires work. Our troops in Korea are doing their part of the job. You're doing yours when you buy Bonds. Together we can hammer out the peace we're all working for."

★ ★ ★

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Lt. Colonel
Reginald R. Myers, USMC
Medal of Honor



Peace is for the strong! For peace and prosperity
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Loveless Bride

I HAD BEEN BROUGHT UP IN CIRCUS LIFE, AND WITH MY FATHER I FORGED THE TEAM OF "COLIN AND COLINETTE". WHEN FATHER DIED IN A FALL FROM THE HIGH WIRE, I TEAMED UP WITH ROY DURLAND, FATHER'S PUPIL AND MY SWEETHEART. I THOUGHT NOTHING COULD HAPPEN TO OUR LOVE--UNTIL I FOUND MARQUITA NARLY IN ROY'S ARMS. SHE TOLD ME SCORNFULLY SHE AND ROY WERE PLANNING TO LEAVE AND JOIN A BIGGER SHOW. I WAS HEARTBROKEN, TRIED TO GO ON ALONE. . . BUT EACH DAY BECAME HARDER.

I WISH YOU WOULDN'T GO ON TONIGHT, COLEY.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, AL. I'LL BE ALL RIGHT.

ALDO HART, A YOUNG CLOWN, HAD JOINED THE CIRCUS A FEW MONTHS BEFORE.

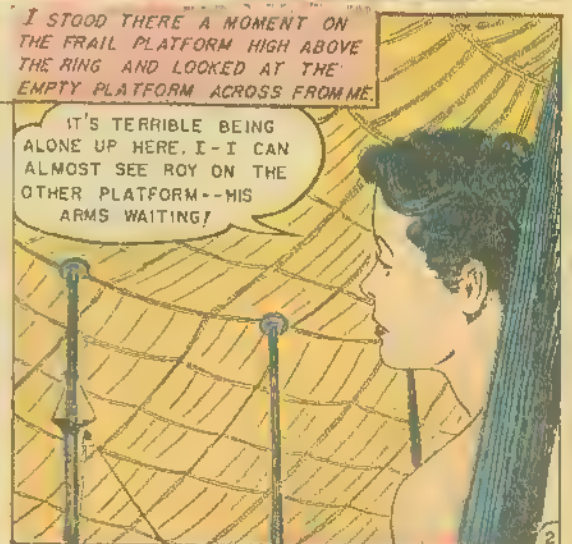
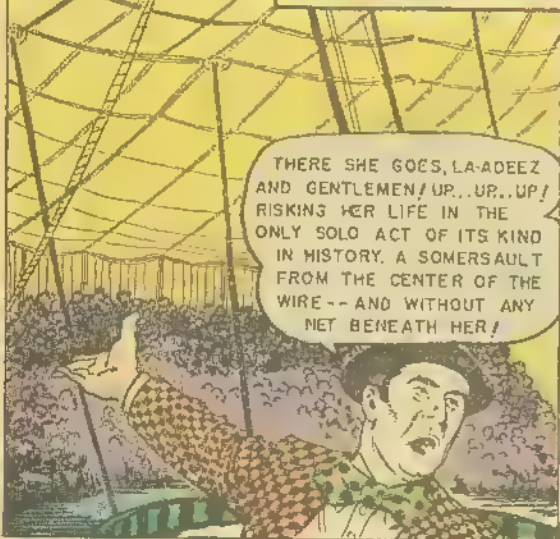
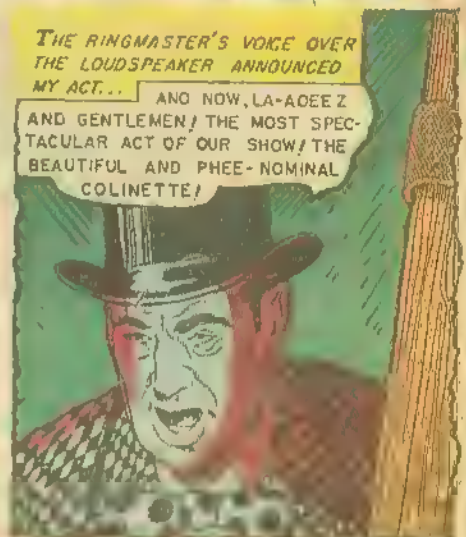
I HAD KNOWN FROM THE BEGINNING THAT HE WAS IN LOVE WITH ME-- BUT BECAUSE MY HEART WAS SO COMPLETELY ROY'S, I HAD ALWAYS DISCOURAGED ALDO.

BUT NOW THAT ROY WAS GONE, I WAS TOUCHED BY HIS ATTENTION, EVEN THOUGH I COULD NOT RETURN HIS LOVE.

EVERYBODY KNOWS NOW THIS SHOW IS FAILING AND IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF DAYS TILL IT FOLDS COMPLETELY! GIVE YOURSELF A BREAK, KID. DON'T TRY TO GO IT ALONE.

PEOPLE OUT THERE PAID TO SEE A SHOW--- AND I'M PART OF IT! BESIDES, NOTHING SEEMS TO MATTER.

IT MATTERS A LOT TO ME. THIS ISN'T A VERY ROMANTIC GET-UP TO WEAR WHEN YOU'RE ASKING A GIRL TO MARRY YOU-- BUT I WANT TO TAKE CARE OF YOU, COLEY.



I COULDN'T STAND THERE FOREVER. JUST BEFORE I STARTED, I LOOKED DOWN AND SAW ALDO, HIS FACE IN ITS GROTESQUE CLOWN MAKEUP STARING UP AT ME... AND I COULD ALMOST HEAR HIS VOICE!



I LOVE YOU, COLINETTE!



OH, ROY, HOW COULD YOU DO THIS TO ME!

I KNEW I SHOULDN'T BE THINKING OF ROY. A GOOD PERFORMER MUST CONCENTRATE ON HIS TIMING AND WORK. AND IT WAS JUST AS I POISED MYSELF FOR MY SOMERSAULT THAT I LOST MY BALANCE!



EEEEYYAH!!

COLINETTE!
OH, MY DARLING!
I--I'LL CATCH YOU!

THERE WAS THE DREADFUL FEELING OF HURLING THROUGH SPACE. IN THAT SPLIT SECOND I THOUGHT OF MY FATHER AND I WAS SURE THE SAME END WAS NOW TO BE MINE! AND THEN MY BODY STRUCK SOMETHING THAT BROKE THE IMPACT OF CRASHING AGAINST THE EARTH. IT WAS ALDO --- WHO HAD GAUGED MY FALL AND THROWN HIMSELF BENEATH ME!

I WAS SHAKEN UP AND BRUISED BUT OTHERWISE UNHURT. ALDO WAS TAKEN TO THE HOSPITAL WHERE THE DOCTORS COULDN'T DETERMINE THE SERIOUSNESS OF HIS INJURIES...



OH, AL! WHY DID YOU DO IT!
I--I'M NOT WORTH IT!

YOU ARE TO ME, SWEET!

IF ONLY I COULD DO SOMETHING FOR YOU, AL...



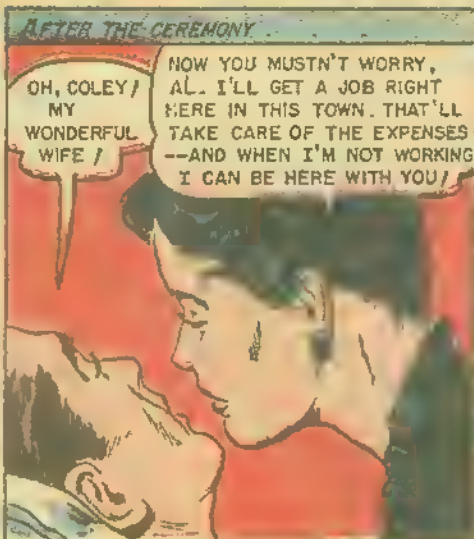
YOU COULD STILL MARRY ME! EVEN IF I DIED, THAT WOULD BE MY DREAM COME TRUE! BUT IF I LIVED--- WHAT KIND OF HUSBAND IS A CRIPPLE? AND I WAS THE GUY WHO WANTED TO TAKE CARE OF YOU!

YOU AREN'T GOING TO DIE, AL! YOU CAN'T! AND I'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU! IT WILL GIVE ME A REASON FOR LIVING. I--I'LL MARRY YOU AND TAKE CARE OF YOU!

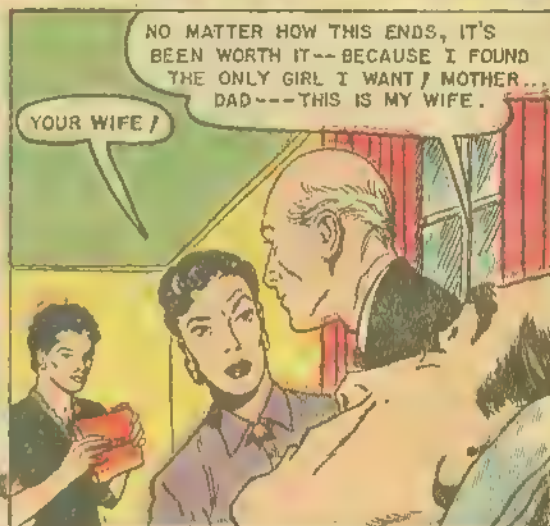
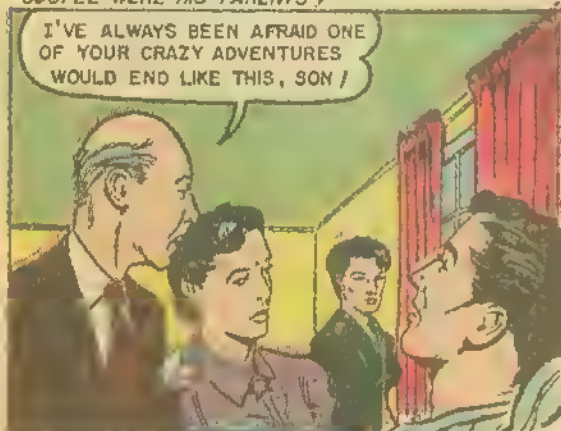


I--I BELIEVE YOU REALLY MEAN THAT!

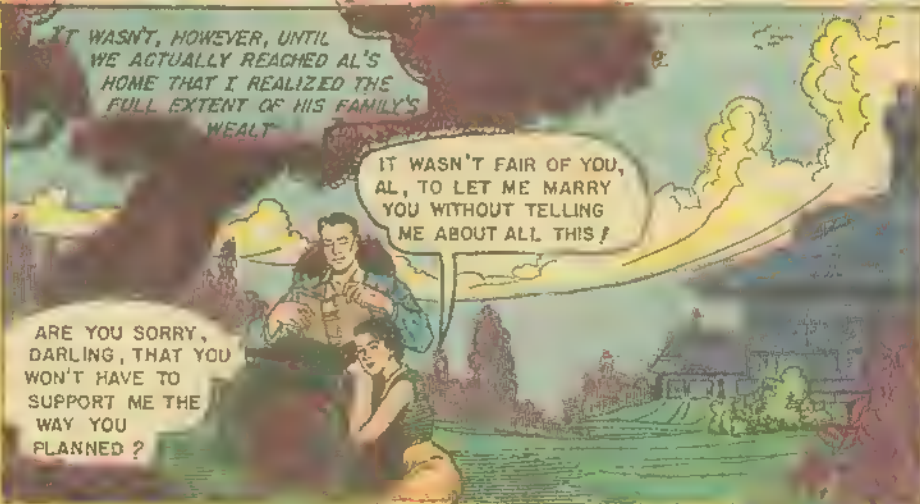
BECAUSE OF AL'S UNCERTAIN CONDITION AND HIS URGENT INSISTENCE, THE DOCTORS GAVE IN TO HIS DEMAND THAT OUR MARRIAGE MUST TAKE PLACE IMMEDIATELY. SYMPATHETIC OFFICIALS ISSUED A SPECIAL LICENSE AND WE WERE MARRIED IN AL'S HOSPITAL ROOM



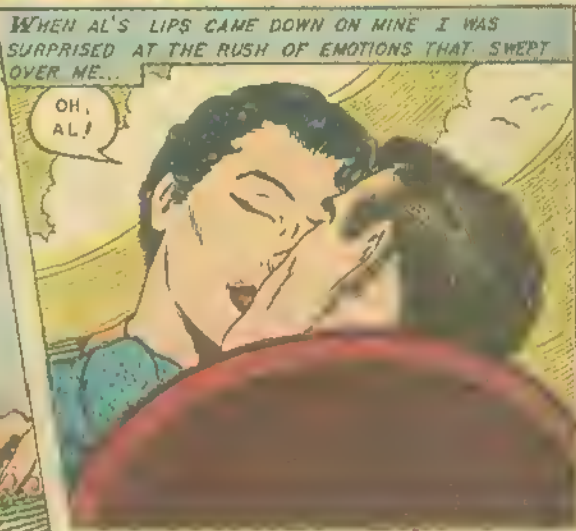
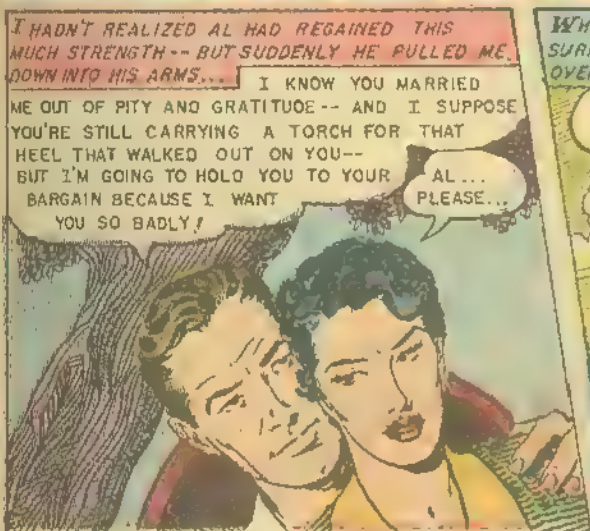
SUDDENLY I REALIZED HOW LITTLE I REALLY KNEW ABOUT THIS MAN I HAD MARRIED OUT OF GRATITUDE! AND THIS BEAUTIFULLY AND EXPENSIVELY DRESSED COUPLE WERE HIS PARENTS!



I SAW AT ONCE HOW AL'S PARENTS FELT ABOUT HIS MARRIAGE. AND IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOWED THEY MADE NO SECRET OF THE FACT IT WAS AN UNPLEASANT SHOCK TO THEM. THEY WANTED TO TAKE AL HOME WITH AN ENTOURAGE OF NURSES AND DOCTORS, BUT HE REFUSED TO LEAVE WITHOUT ME.



TO HELP HIS MENTAL ATTITUDE, IT WAS FINALLY DECIDED I SHOULD GO ALONG.





ROY! WH - WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

COLEY!

AS I LOOKED AT ROY NOW, IT DIDN'T SEEM POSSIBLE THAT I HAD FELT THAT WITHOUT HIS LOVE LIFE HELD NOTHING FOR ME!

DARLING -- SWEETHEART -- WHEN I READ THAT YOU HAD FALLEN, I KNEW THAT IF ANYTHING HAD HAPPENED TO YOU, I WOULDN'T HAVE WANTED TO LIVE, EITHER!

WEREN'T YOU A LITTLE LATE IN FINDING THAT OUT, ROY?



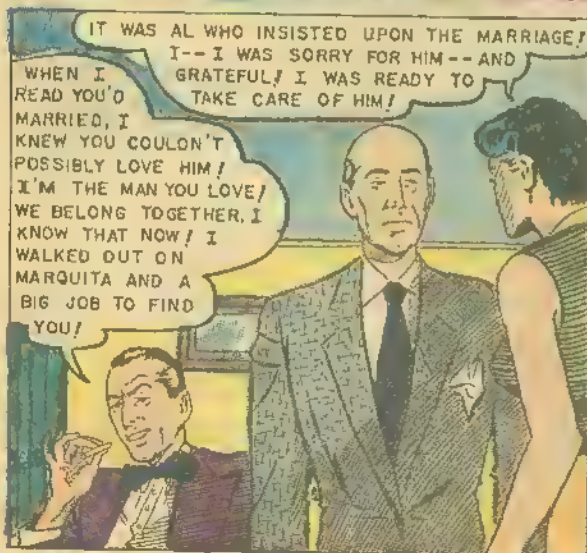
I DESERVE ANYTHING YOU SAY TO ME -- ANYTHING YOU DO TO ME! BUT IT WASN'T UNTIL THEN THAT I REALIZED WHAT YOU MEANT TO ME!

ROY! YOU'RE PUTTING ON A HAMMY ACT! I'M NOT IMPRESSED!



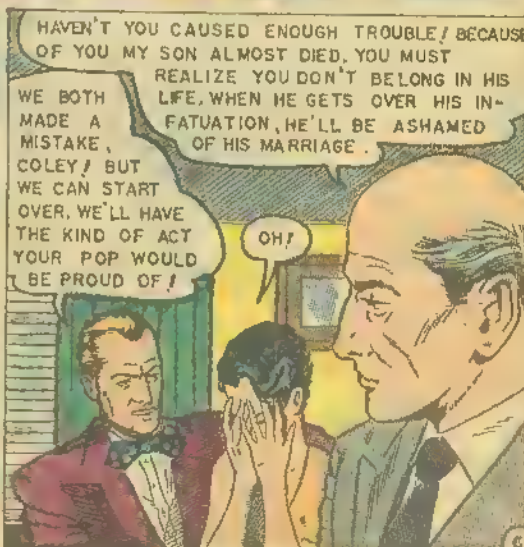
FROM WHAT I'VE HEARD, YOU WERE VERY MUCH IN LOVE WITH MR. DURLAND AT ONE TIME. BUT I SUPPOSE SINCE YOU TRAPPED MY SON INTO MARRIAGE, YOU'RE ONLY IMPRESSED WITH CASH!

TRAPPED YOUR SON! WHY, THAT'S NOT TRUE! I -- I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW --



IT WAS AL WHO INSISTED UPON THE MARRIAGE! I -- I WAS SORRY FOR HIM -- AND GRATEFUL! I WAS READY TO TAKE CARE OF HIM!

WHEN I READ YOU'D MARRIED, I KNEW YOU COULDN'T POSSIBLY LOVE HIM! I'M THE MAN YOU LOVE! WE BELONG TOGETHER. I KNOW THAT NOW! I WALKED OUT ON MARQUITA AND A BIG JOB TO FIND YOU!



HAVEN'T YOU CAUSED ENOUGH TROUBLE! BECAUSE OF YOU MY SON ALMOST DIED. YOU MUST REALIZE YOU DON'T BELONG IN HIS LIFE. WHEN HE GETS OVER HIS INFATUATION, HE'LL BE ASHAMED OF HIS MARRIAGE.

WE BOTH MADE A MISTAKE, COLEY! BUT WE CAN START OVER. WE'LL HAVE THE KIND OF ACT YOUR POP WOULD BE PROUD OF!

OH!

SUDDENLY I KNEW MY LOVE FOR ROY WAS DEAD. ALDO WAS ALL THAT MATTERED TO ME / BUT WAS AL'S FATHER RIGHT? WOULD AL BECOME ASHAMED OF HIS MARRIAGE? AND COULD I MAKE AL BELIEVE MY LOVE FOR HIM WAS REAL AND NOT JUST MY DESIRE TO HANG ON TO THIS NEW LIFE OF WEALTH AND GLAMOUR?


CONFUSED AS I WAS, IT WAS EASY FOR MR. HART AND ROY TO PERSUADE ME THAT MY MARRIAGE TO AL COULD NOT LAST

AL'S ON THE ROAD TO RECOVERY NOW. HIS ADVENTURE IS OVER. AND WHEN YOUR MARRIAGE IS ANNULLED, HE'LL PROBABLY MARRY THE GIRL HE USED TO GO WITH BEFORE HE MET YOU -- A GIRL OF WHOM HIS MOTHER AND I ARE VERY FOND.

YOU HAVE IT ALL PLANNED, DON'T YOU? AND--AND I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT /

IT WILL BE BETTER IF YOU LEFT WITHOUT ANY SCENES THAT MIGHT UPSET ALDO. AND I'LL MAKE IT WORTH YOUR WHILE. I'LL WRITE YOU A CHECK.

I WOULDN'T TOUCH A PENNY OF YOUR MONEY /






AND AS FOR YOU, ROY -- DON'T WAIT / I HAVE NO INTENTION OF LEAVING WITH YOU. WHAT-EVER I FELT FOR YOU IS COMPLETELY DEAD /

NOW, COLEY... PLEASE...

I RAN TO MY ROOM TO PACK MY BAG.

I THOUGHT I KNEW WHAT HEARTBREAK WAS---BUT IT WAS NEVER LIKE THIS / OH, AL / I WANT TO BE YOUR REAL WIFE... BUT NOW I NEVER WILL--- EXCEPT IN MY DREAMS /

WHEN I SAW ROY DOWNSTAIRS I FIGURED YOU'D BE PACKING TO LEAVE WITH HIM /


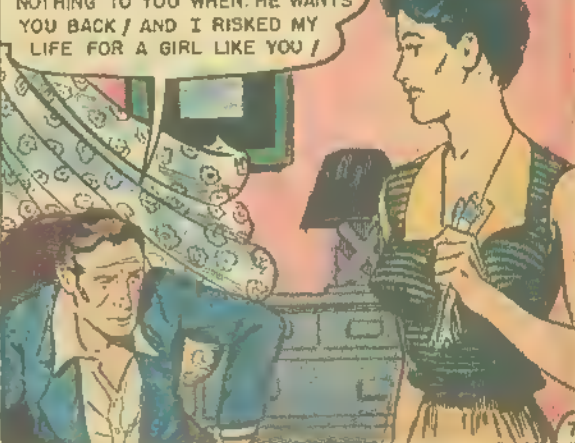




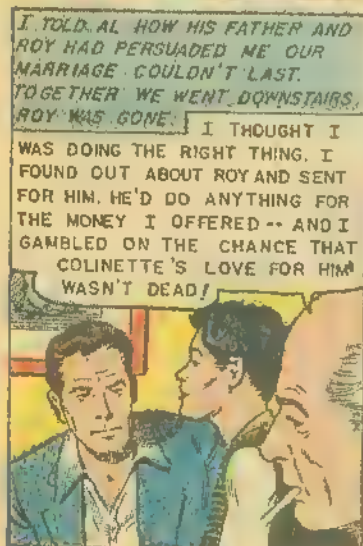
AL / I---I THOUGHT YOU WERE STILL IN THE GARDEN. I HOPED I COULD GET AWAY WITHOUT US SEEING EACH OTHER AGAIN /

I SUPPOSE IT'S ALWAYS EASIER TO KNIFE A MAN IN THE BACK THAN TO LOOK HIM IN THE EYE AS YOU STAB HIM /

I THOUGHT MY ARMS AND LIPS MIGHT MAKE YOU FORGET, ROY--- BUT EVEN MARRIAGE VOWS MEAN NOTHING TO YOU WHEN HE WANTS YOU BACK / AND I RISKED MY LIFE FOR A GIRL LIKE YOU /

OH, AL / DON'T--- DON'T /



CHAINED to a Dream

...THIS VITAL NEW FACTORY BRINGS TO LEESVILLE NEW FACES, NEW FACES, NEW MARKETS, NEW BLOOD / FOR ALL OF US NEWCOMERS, I GIVE THANKS FOR YOUR HEARTY WELCOME /

WELCOME ? I WISH I'D NEVER HEARD OF THEM ! LEESVILLE WILL BE RUINED... ALL OUTSIDERS OVER-RUNNING THIS LOVELY TOWN / EVEN IF HE IS HANDSOME, I WISH THEY'D ALL GO AWAY !

OVERNIGHT, STRANGERS SUDDENLY TOOK OVER OUR QUIET TOWN OF LEESVILLE--WHERE GENERATIONS OF MY FAMILY HAD LIVED WITH WELL-MANNERED GRACE... TO MANY, THE BOOM MEANT MORE BUSINESS... TO ME, IT WAS THE END OF A GRACIOUS WAY OF LIFE --- BUT THE BEGINNING OF A RICHER WAY OF LOVE .

AND AS THE PLANT GOT UNDER WAY, ALL MY FEARS WERE REALIZED !

SORRY I'M LATE, OLIVER / BUT WITH ALL THESE NEWCOMERS MOBBING THE STORE, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO BUY A THING / I CAN'T IMAGINE WHERE THEY ALL LIVE !

WHEREVER IT IS, I WISH THEY'D STAY THERE !

I PROMISED YOUR AUNT AGNES I'D GET YOU HOME PROMPTLY FOR DINNER / WITH TRAFFIC JAMMED LIKE THIS, WE'LL NEVER MAKE IT !

AT LEAST YOU UNDERSTAND HOW I FEEL / IT HELPS HAVING A SHOULDER TO WEEP ON !

YES, OLIVER HEWITT, WHOSE GREAT-GRAND-FATHER HAD HELPED MINE FOUND LEESVILLE, COULD UNDERSTAND MY INGRAINED LOVE FOR THE TOWN / MAYBE I LOVED IT TOO WELL--- MAYBE THAT'S WHY I HAD NO REAL LOVE LEFT FOR OLIVER HIMSELF !

AND AS WE FINALLY ARRIVED HOME...

WHEW!
WHAT
WAS
THAT?

JUST THE FACTORY WHISTLE!
IT POINTS RIGHT THIS WAY! AND
THE GRIME SETTLES ON OUR
CURTAINS, AND THE SMOKE
KILLS OUR FLOWERS, AND...

NOW,
LORRAINE!
CHANGES
ARE
BOUND
TO
HAPPEN!

TOOT

ANYWAY, THE
COUNTRY CLUB'S
STILL UNCHANGED!
SUPPOSE WE GO
DOWN AFTER
DINNER!

I WISH I COULD! BUT TOMORROW'S THE FIRST AGAIN... AND THAT MEANS I'VE GOT TO PREPARE FOR OPEN HOUSE DAY! GRANDMOTHER CARTWRIGHT STARTED THE CUSTOM, YOU KNOW, AND I CAN'T LET IT DROP--EVEN THOUGH ONLY THOSE FACTORY PEOPLE COME NOWADAYS!

YES, I WAS LOYAL TO ALL THE MEMORIES AND GHOSTS OF MAGNOLIA HOUSE! AND THE NEXT DAY...

AND THAT'S A PORTRAIT OF THE FIRST LETITIA CARTWRIGHT! THIS WAS HER SITTING-ROOM!

LOOK AT THE SIZE OF IT! BIGGER THAN OUR WHOLE APARTMENT!

WHAT'S IT USED FOR NOW, MISS CARTWRIGHT?

WHY... NOTHING! THIS WHOLE WING IS USUALLY CLOSED OFF! NOW THERE ARE THE GARDENS... LAID OUT 112 YEARS AGO! THEY'RE NEGLECTED NOW, WITH HELP SO HARD TO GET! BUT THOSE VERY BUSHES ONCE GREW THE BIGGEST ROSES IN THE STATE!

AND STILL WOULD IF YOU NIPPED OFF THE SIDE BUDS!

MY PULSE QUICKENED WHEN I RECOGNIZED THE HANDSOME VISITOR... BUT HIS UNASKED-FOR ADVICE WAS THE LAST STRAW!

THANKS... BUT I'M SURE OUR GARDENERS KNOW BEST!

BUT THE BOY KNOWS WHAT HE'S TALKING ABOUT, LORRAINE! THEY ALWAYS USED TO CLIP THE BUDS WHEN I WAS A GIRL. IF ONLY WE COULD GET THE HELP!

YOU'VE GOT IT, MISS... IF YOU DON'T MIND! I ALWAYS LOVED GARDENING! HERE, LIVING IN A FURNISHED ROOM, I'D WELCOME A CHANCE TO GET OUT AND DIG!

WHY, LORRAINE, HE SOUNDS REASONABLE, AND WE CAN CERTAINLY USE HIM!

I'M SORRY! IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

THANKS! JEFF MEADE IS MY NAME... PERSONNEL MANAGER OVER AT THE PLANT! I'LL BE HERE TOMORROW EVENING!

SO NOW THE FACTORY IS TAKING OVER IN PERSON! WELL, THIS MEADE MAY BE COMING AROUND... BUT I INTEND TO STEER CLEAR OF HIM!

BUT IGNORING JEFF MEADE WAS HARDER THAN IT SOUNDED! THERE WAS SOMETHING CONTAGIOUS ABOUT HIS OVERFLOWING GOOD HUMOR, HIS NATURAL FRIENDLINESS, AND AS THE DAYS PASSED, HE BECAME ALMOST A PART OF MAGNOLIA MANOR!

LOOK...GLADIOLAS/THE FIRST OF THE SEASON!

THANKS TO YOU, JEFF!

BUT OF COURSE YOU'LL STAY TO DINNER! WE'RE COUNTING ON IT!

Y-YES, JEFF! PLEASE DO!

YOU DO LOVE FLOWERS, DON'T YOU, LORRAINE? HOW ELSE COULD YOU ARRANGE THEM SO NICELY?

THANKS. I USED TO HELP MY MOTHER --- BEFORE SHE DIED!

UNTIL, A MONTH LATER...

I WONDER WHAT'S HOLDING JEFF UP? HE'S ALWAYS HERE BY SEVEN-THIRTY!

I DECLARE, YOU SOUND POSITIVELY IMPATIENT, LORRAINE!

NONSENSE, AUNT AGNES! YOU KNOW IT DOESN'T MATTER ONE BIT TO ME WHETHER HE GETS HERE OR NOT! IT'S JUST THAT ...WELL, THE AZALEAS NEED PRUNING! I SUPPOSE I'LL HAVE TO DO IT MYSELF!

BUT THE AZALEAS WERE JUST AN EXCUSE! I COULDN'T LET AUNT AGNES SEE MY FLUSHED CHEEKS, MY CONSTANT GLANCES DOWN THE ROAD, UNTIL, LATER...

IMPATIENT?... I? BUT THAT'S ABSURD!

LORRAINE!

JEFF! I-I DIDN'T HEAR YOU COMING! I'D BETTER GET INSIDE! MY HAIR... MY CLOTHES... I MUST LOOK A FRIGHT!

HGT TO ME, YOU DON'T!

I'VE ALWAYS KNOWN YOU COULD LOOK SMOOTH, PERFECT, ... LIKE ONE OF THOSE ANCESTRAL PORTRAITS INSIDE! BUT TONIGHT-- WITH YOUR HAIR BLOWING AND THAT SMUDGE ON YOUR CHEEK -- TONIGHT YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL, LORRAINE!

OH, DARLING, MAYBE I'M REACHING FOR THE MOON... BUT THERE'S NO USE WAITING ANY LONGER! TONIGHT I'VE GOT TO TELL YOU-- I'M CRAZY ABOUT YOU!

JEFF... SWEETHEART!



IT WAS LATE WHEN JEFF LEFT THAT NIGHT... BUT MUCH LATER BEFORE I WAS ABLE TO FALL ASLEEP!

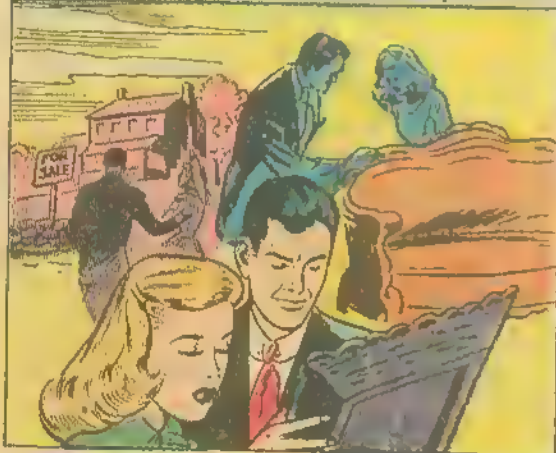
NO ONE EVER KISSED ME THAT WAY BEFORE... NOT EVEN OLIVER! BUT IT WASN'T WRONG! IT WAS... WONDERFUL! OH, HOW DID IT HAPPEN? WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN? I NEVER MEANT TO FALL FOR JEFF! HE AND I COME FROM DIFFERENT WORLDS!



BUT WHAT OF IT? JEFF'S DIFFERENT! HE'S NOT LIKE THE REST OF THESE NEWCOMERS! HE'S FINE... SENSITIVE! HE LOVES ME, HE LOVES MAGNOLIA HOUSE, AND IN TIME HE'LL LEARN TO LOVE ALL THE GRACIOUS OLD THINGS THAT MEAN SO MUCH TO ME!

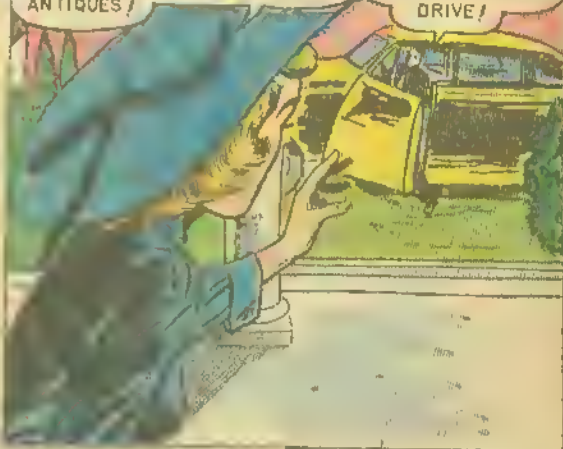


IT WAS ALL SO ABSURDLY SIMPLE... IN MY THOUGHTS, IF JEFF LOVED ME, HE MUST LOVE EVERYTHING I STOOD FOR... THE HEIRLOOMS, THE FAMILY LEGENDS, THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, AND HE PUT UP WITH IT... AT FIRST!



DON'T BOTHER GETTING OUT, DARLING! WE'RE GOING RIGHT OVER TO THE SOMERS' PLACE! WE'RE HAVING THE MOST MARVELOUS VISITOR... AN EXPERT ON ANTIQUES!

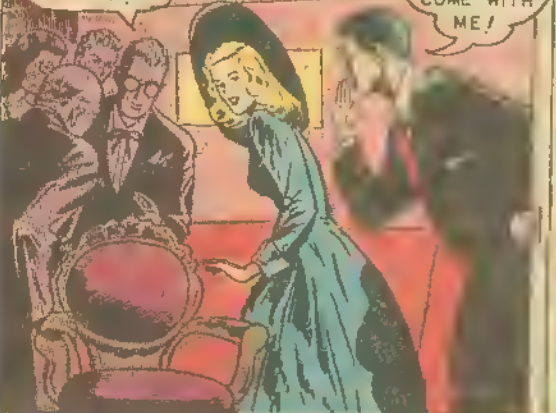
WELL... IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT TO DO! MYSELF, I WAS HOPING WE COULD GO FOR A LONG DRIVE!



I COULDN'T HELP NOTICING JEFF'S TROUBLED FROWN AS WE DROVE OFF! BUT I WAS TOO PLEASED TO CARE-- UNTIL, LATER...

NOW THIS CRYING IS TYPICAL OF IMPORTS FROM BRITAIN IN THE 1840'S!

LORRAINE! LORRAINE... COME WITH ME!



JEFF... WHAT'S THE IDEA?

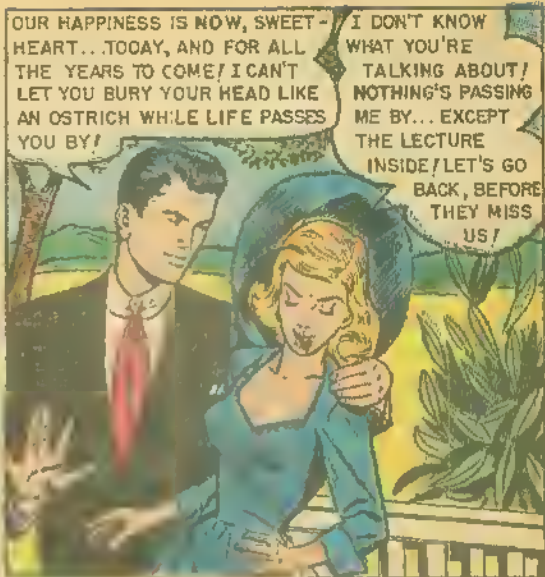
I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND, DARLING! BUT AFTER ALL THAT MUSTY TALK, I HAD TO HAVE SOME FRESH AIR! HONESTLY... I KNOW THEY'RE ALL YOUR FRIENDS... BUT DON'T THEY EVER DO ANYTHING EXCEPT WASTE TIME?





WASTE TIME! JEFF, YOU'RE JOKING! WHY, THERE'S THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, AND THE LEESVILLE PRESERVATION CLUB, AND---

I KNOW---AND EVERY BIT OF IT THIS SENSELESS LOOKING BACKWARDS! OH, I DON'T CARE ABOUT THE REST! BUT YOU, DARLING... YOU'RE TOO YOUNG AND ALIVE AND LOVELY TO SQUANDER YOUR DAYS TRYING TO RELIVE THE PAST!



OUR HAPPINESS IS NOW, SWEET-HEART... TODAY, AND FOR ALL THE YEARS TO COME! I CAN'T LET YOU BURY YOUR HEAD LIKE AN OSTRICH WHILE LIFE PASSES YOU BY!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT! NOTHING'S PASSING ME BY... EXCEPT THE LECTURE INSIDE! LET'S GO BACK, BEFORE THEY MISS US!



ON ONE CONDITION! I'VE MET YOUR FRIENDS... NOW I WANT YOU TO MEET MINE! THE FACTORY'S HAVING A PICNIC NEXT WEEK! IT WOULD MEAN A LOT TO ME IF YOU'D COME!

WHY NOT? HE'LL SOON DISCOVER I DON'T BELONG THERE! AND WHAT'S MORE, NEITHER DOES HE!



HOW LITTLE I KNEW, THEN, OF WHAT THAT PICNIC WOULD MEAN! FOR A WEEK LATER, AS WE ARRIVED...

HERE WE ARE! LOOKS LIKE A GOOD TURNOUT, TOO!

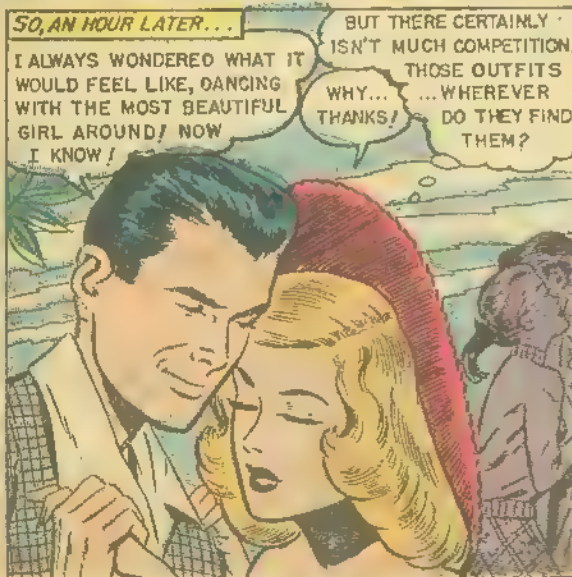
I'LL SAY! I'VE NEVER IN MY LIFE SEEN SO MANY PEOPLE CRAMMED INTO ONE SPACE!



HI, JEFF! COME ALONG... BRING THE LADY TOO! WE NEED SOME MORE FOR THE VOLLEY BALL GAME!

I... IF YOU DON'T MIND... I MEAN, I'M NOT DRESSED FOR IT!

OF COURSE, DEAR. WE'LL GRAB A BITE TO EAT, AND THEN WE'LL DANCE!



SO, AN HOUR LATER...

I ALWAYS WONDERED WHAT IT WOULD FEEL LIKE, DANCING WITH THE MOST BEAUTIFUL GIRL AROUND! NOW I KNOW!

BUT THERE CERTAINLY ISN'T MUCH COMPETITION THOSE OUTFITS WHY... THANKS! ... WHEREVER DO THEY FIND THEM?



AND YET, THE DAY MIGHT HAVE PASSED QUIETLY... BUT, THE NEXT MOMENT...

MIND IF I CUT IN?

MIND? I'D LIKE TO DISAPPEAR! BUT I HAVE TO BE POLITE... FOR JEFF'S SAKE!

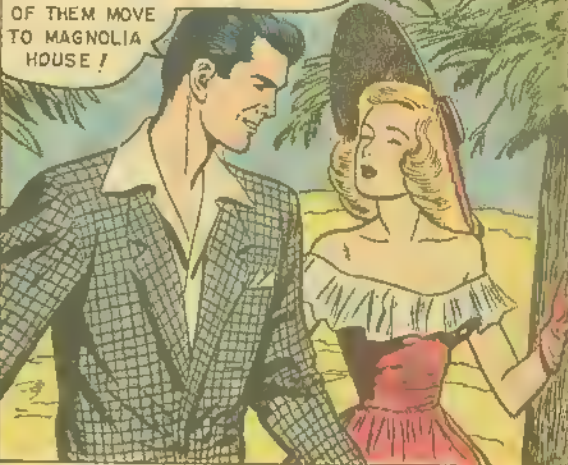
MAYBE THE STRANGER WAS REALLY ALL RIGHT. BUT TENSE AS I WAS, I COULD NOTICE ONLY HIS GARISH SHIRT, THE DARK LINES UNDER HIS FINGERNAILS! AND AS SOON AS THE DANCE WAS OVER...

OH, JEFF, I'M SO TIRED OF IT ALL... THAT PHONOGRAPH, THE SMELL OF HAM-BURGERS! WE CAN GO NOW, CAN'T WE?



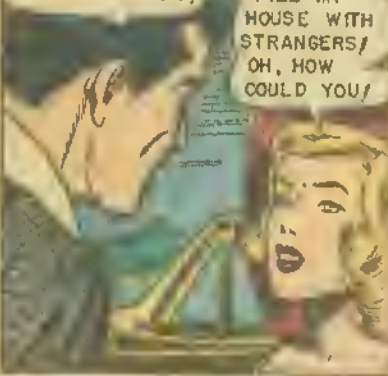
IT MEANT SO MUCH TO ME, YOUR UNDERSTANDING THESE PEOPLE... EVEN LIKING THEM! YOU SEE, I WAS HOPING... YOU'D LET SOME OF THEM MOVE TO MAGNOLIA HOUSE!

JEFF... WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?



LORRAINE, LEESVILLE IS OVERFLOWING WITH FACTORY WORKERS! I'M PERSONNEL MANAGER... I KNOW THE BITTERNESS AND TENSION IT'S CAUSING! MAGNOLIA HOUSE IS HALF-EMPTY, USELESS! WHY NOT PUT IT TO WORK, MAKING PEOPLE HAPPY?

FILL MY HOUSE WITH STRANGERS! OH, HOW COULD YOU!



I KNOW IT'S ASKING A LOT, DEAREST! BUT WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT IT... TALK IT OVER WITH YOUR AUNT... I'M SURE YOU'LL SEE IT MY WAY!

I DON'T NEED TO THINK! I KNOW ALREADY HOW I FEEL ABOUT THIS PLAN OF YOURS! IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!



I'VE RODE HOME THAT DAY IN GRIM SILENCE... UNTIL AS WE DROVE INTO THE SHADOW OF MAGNOLIA HOUSE...

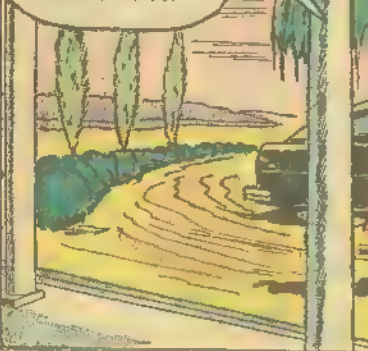
IT'S SUCH A MAGNIFICENT HOUSE! HOW COULD YOU EVEN ASK ME TO RUIN IT?

RUIN IT? BY FILLING IT WITH VOICES, AND LOVE, AND LAUGHTER? LORRAINE, YOU COULDN'T BE THAT SELFISH!



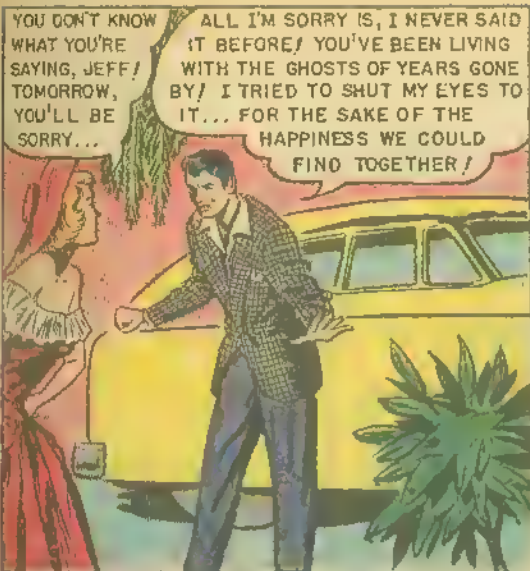
SELFISHNESS... IS THAT WHAT IT IS TO YOU? I'M NOT EVEN THINKING OF MYSELF... OF THE INCONVENIENCE YOUR CRAZY IDEA WOULD CAUSE ME AND MY AUNT! BUT WHEN YOU REMEMBER ALL THIS HOUSE MEANS TO ME... THE GENERATIONS BEHIND IT...

I'VE HEARD ENOUGH ABOUT THOSE GENERATIONS! YOU SEE, I KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT THEM, TOO!



I KNOW THAT DURING THE CIVIL WAR THIS VERY LAWN WAS COVERED WITH HOSPITAL TENTS... THAT WHEN THE LEESVILLE RIVER OVERFLOWED, YOUR GRANDMOTHER SHELTERED 100 PEOPLE FOR A MONTH! SURE THIS WAS A GREAT HOUSE... BECAUSE THERE WERE GREAT PEOPLE LIVING IN IT! BUT ALL YOU'VE EVER DONE IS BASK IN THEIR REFLECTED GLORY!



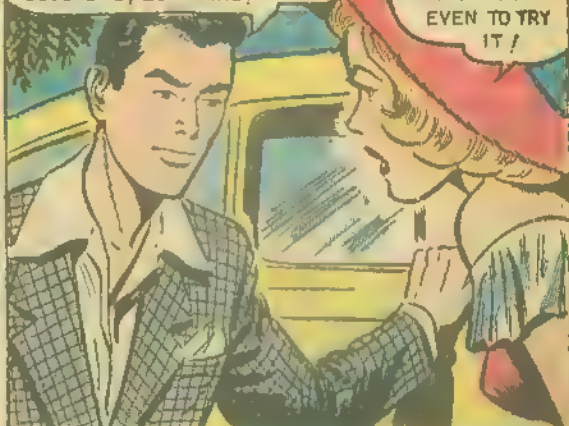


YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE SAYING, JEFF! TOMORROW, YOU'LL BE SORRY...

ALL I'M SORRY IS, I NEVER SAID IT BEFORE! YOU'VE BEEN LIVING WITH THE GHOSTS OF YEARS GONE BY! I TRIED TO SHUT MY EYES TO IT... FOR THE SAKE OF THE HAPPINESS WE COULD FIND TOGETHER!

I CAN'T LOCK MYSELF UP IN AN EMPTY HOUSE WITH A GIRL TOO BLIND AND SELF-CENTERED TO FIND OUT WHAT THE WORLD IS REALLY LIKE --- NOT EVEN WHEN THAT GIRL IS YOU! GOOD-BYE, LORRAINE!

AND TO THINK I TRIED TO SHARE MY LIFE WITH SOMEONE LIKE YOU! I WAS CRAZY EVEN TO TRY IT!



LET HIM GO! I DON'T NEED HIM! ALL HE EVER WANTED WAS TO DRAG ME DOWN TO HIS LEVEL! I HAVE MAGNOLIA HOUSE... AND FRIENDS WHO THINK AND FEEL AS I DO! JEFF MEADE... DOESN'T MATTER!



BUT I LEARNED, AS THE DAYS PASSED, HOW EMPTY MY BOASTS WERE!

I NEVER NOTICED HOW LONELY THE HOUSE GETS AT NIGHT! IT'S ALMOST--TERRIFYING! MAYBE IT'S ONLY BECAUSE I GOT USED TO JEFF BEING AROUND! ... I'LL CALL OLIVER, THAT'S WHAT!



BUT I SOON DISCOVERED THAT OLIVER, PALLID AND DULL, WAS ONLY A MOCKING REMINDER OF JEFF!

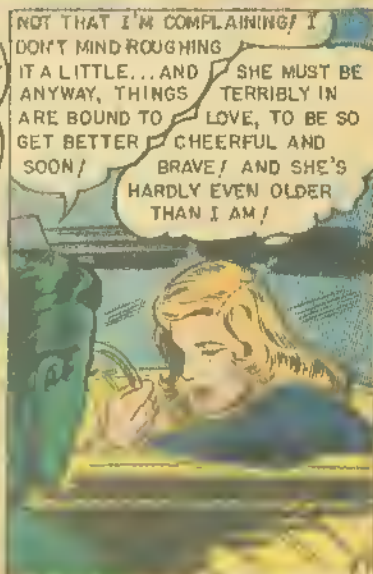
SHALL WE DRIVE TO THE MUSEUM? THERE'S A NEW EXHIBIT--

WE MIGHT AS WELL--OH, OLIVER, LOOK AT THAT POOR GIRL! LET'S STOP FOR HER!

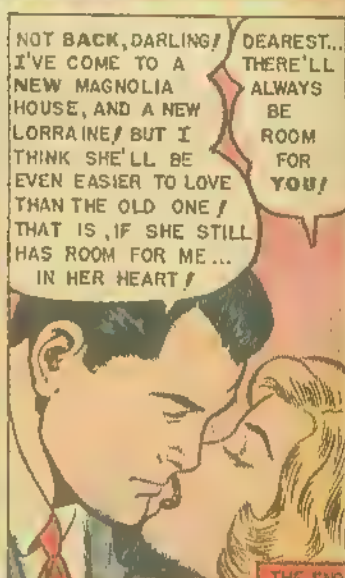
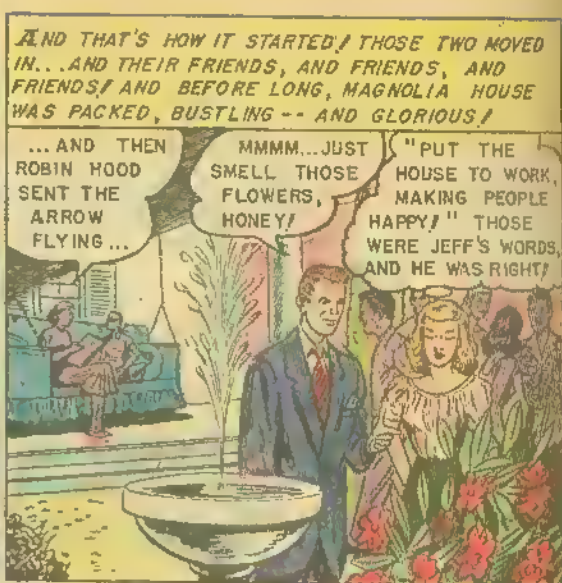


HELLO! CAN WE GIVE YOU A LIFT?

YOU BET! I'VE BEEN WALKING FOR TWO MILES! THE MAN AT THE FACTORY SAID THERE WAS A TRAILER FOR RENT--IT WOULD HAVE BEEN PERFECT FOR MY HUSBAND AND ME! BUT I WAS TOO LATE... SO IT'S BACK TO OUR HOTEL ROOM!



NOT THAT I'M COMPLAINING! I DON'T MIND ROUGHING IT A LITTLE... AND ANYWAY, THINGS ARE BOUND TO GET BETTER SOON! SHE MUST BE TERRIBLY IN LOVE, TO BE SO CHEERFUL AND BRAVE! AND SHE'S HARDLY EVEN OLDER THAN I AM!



STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1941 (Title 39, United States Code, Section 233)

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2. The owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as that of each individual member, must be given.) Ace Periodicals, Inc., 33 West 47th St., New York 36, N. Y.; Ace News Corporation, 23 West 47th St., New York 36, N. Y.; A. A. Wyn, 23 West 47th St., New York 36, N. Y.; Rose Wyn, 23 West 47th St., New York 36, N. Y.

3. The known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of the total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.) None.

4. Paragraphs 2 and 3 include, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting; also the statements in the two paragraphs show the affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner.

5. The average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to subscribers during the twelve months preceding the date shown above was: (This information is required from daily, weekly, semi-weekly, and tri-weekly newspapers only.) Not Required.

A. A. WYN

(Signature of editor, publisher, business manager or owner)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 26th day of September, 1952

ETTA HARDT, Notary Public
My Commission Expires March 30, 1953

HELP YOURSELF TO ALLURE

THE ART OF BEING FEMININE

Ask any boy what kind of girl he wants to marry and invariably his answer will be, "A real woman—one who is thoroughly feminine!"

Some girls think that appearance alone is the yardstick of femininity. But a girl can dress like a valentine and still lack true feminine appeal!

What is it, then, that the truly feminine girl has that so appeals to boys?

She has a good sense of values. She doesn't judge a boy by the amount of money he spends on her, the type of places he can afford to take her. She appreciates the little things, the small courtesies and gallantries, that he extends to her. A boy knows that she likes him for himself, not the good times he can give her.

She is never bored. She hasn't time to be bored. She's too busy doing things. She lives life fully and completely, and she imparts her zeal for living to others. That is why boys find dates with her so fascinating and exciting.

She has glamour and sex-appeal. In her appearance and in her mannerisms she is smooth and lovely and feminine. There is a fresh, natural glow about her that is far more attractive than seductive gowns and exotic hair-dos. She knows that above all boys admire daintiness in a girl. She is always neat and well-groomed.

She is neither cynical nor sarcastic. She realizes that boys don't like being "yessed" all the time, that a quick, pert tongue can intrigue a boy. But she also knows that a continual round of sarcasm and snappy answers kills all femininity in a girl. She enjoys a friendly, witty argument with a boy, and she is always ready to stick up for her ideals, but she steers clear of quarrels—and she never nags.

She has respect for boys. She doesn't consider herself intellectually superior to the boys she meets. She doesn't think of all men as little boys who must be pampered and flattered. She lets a boy feel that she is looking up to him, that she respects his views and opinions. She knows that you can learn something from every person you meet, that some boys who can't express themselves well have hearts filled with wisdom and charm.

She gets along with other girls. Boys admire her because she is well-liked by girls. Her girl friends know that she plays the game fairly that she isn't guilty of gossip or cattiness or man-stealing. She

knows the meaning of true friendship.

She is completely natural. Her love of life and people is genuine. She doesn't resort to artificial poses or a line. She doesn't knock herself out to make an impression, nor does she try to steal the spotlight. Her humor is gay, sparkling, and her laughter is spontaneous. And boys sense instantly that she is fun to be with.

She is warm and responsive. She doesn't place herself on a pedestal and expect boys to treat her like a goddess. Keeping a boy dangling or leading him on isn't her idea of playing fair. And because she treats boys with frankness and sincerity, she receives their respect and sincerity in return! Above all, she is unafraid to show her true feelings toward a boy. And her heart is always open to friendship and love.

These, then, are the qualities that make up the truly feminine girl. How do you measure up to them? Remember, whatever your score, being feminine is an art that every girl who wants to appeal to boys can cultivate because she has the material to work with right within herself.

YOUR MOST GLAMOROUS SELF

Such a pretty girl, Sally! Pretty face, pretty figure, pretty manners—until she sits down. And then Sally isn't pretty any more. And since Sally spends many hours of her working and date life in a sitting posture, it would behoove her to get wise to the do's and don'ts about sitting. If you want to be at your attractive best all of the time, you'd do well to observe these sitting rules, too:

Choose a fairly high, straight-backed chair to sit in when you're in a living room and want to be at your best. Yes, that low easy chair will be more comfortable, but it will throw your body out of alignment and into an unlovely slouch. Lower yourself slowly into a chair. Don't fall into it as if you'd taken your very last step. Falls aren't a bit graceful.

Sit up! The lower part of your back should fit against the lower part of the chair back. Don't put your weight on your shoulders and neck. It will give you an unbecoming round-shouldered look.

Sit forward! Your head and shoulders and upper back should be slightly ahead of the lower back, especially if you're being interviewed for a job. This gives you an attitude of alertness and attention.

Cross your legs if you like, but cross them high above the knee, so that the foot of the crossed leg can hang freely, toes pointed gracefully downward.

Don't cross your legs at the knee. When you do, the calf of the crossed leg is pushed out of shape by the leg under it, and the foot of the crossed leg points outward at an awkward angle. Practice crossing your legs before a mirror to achieve a graceful angle that won't embarrass you.

If you don't cross your legs, either cross your ankles, or see that both feet are together, side by side. Nothing is more awkward looking than a girl sitting with her legs and feet wide apart, or with one foot firmly hooked on a chair rung!

When you're sitting at a table or in a booth, it's permissible to put one arm—and one, only—on the table when you've finished eating. But don't put both arms on the table, and lean your weight on them. Your head protrudes ungracefully when you do this, and the effect of the prettiest hat or hair-do is lost.

Don't cup your chin in your palm, or lean your head on it. Only the most graceful women can do this without distorting their facial contours and looking awkward.

Before sitting down anywhere, stand still a second and give your skirt a chance to fall into alignment. Then, as you sit down, smooth it straight, so you won't wrinkle your skirt or have to straighten it after you're seated. You'll have to practice doing this, of course. Watch actresses in moving pictures to see just how gracefully this can be done.

When you arise from a chair, put your weight on your feet and stand up. Don't push yourself up with hands braced on the chair arm or table.

You'll find that when you have the awareness of sitting correctly, easily, and gracefully, your poise and self-confidence will mount to a new high. You'll not only look better, but you'll feel more self-assured, and make a better impression on people.

FOR LOVELIER LEGS

Since it's man's nature to admire trim ankles and long, graceful legs, it's woman's nature to want that special type of beauty. And this, readers, brings us to the subject of legs and the ways in which we may make our underpinnings more alluring, for there are ways and means—never doubt it—by which we may appear to have remolded calves and ankles and added inches to the length of the legs.

FASHION IMPRESSIONS

Legs that are too short, knock-kneed, bowed, too heavy or too thin offer no problem in long grace-

ful evening skirts. You need not shun the sun though and emerge only by moon light, if you take these fashion laws to heart:

1. Your legs will appear longer when you raise the waistline of your clothes. The higher the waistline, the longer your legs seem. You can fake long legs and a high waistline by wearing a princess-like dress with a nipped-in waist slightly above your normal waistline. The new empire bathing suits that are all skirt from a belt or band below the bosom make the legs seem long. Longer skirts give the illusion of more leg length. Your longer skirts will look fashionable if you wear high heels with them and select stockings as dark or as light as your costume. Avoid anything that cuts your figure below the waistline. Short jackets of the bolero type and full-length coats should be your choice.

2. If your legs are too thin and have little more shape than a pair of toothpicks, the lightish stockings will lend contour to your legs. A short-vamped shoe is becoming to you. Have your clothes fitted at the waist and wrists (and hips if they're slender, too.) Your skirts should bell from the nipped-in waistline.

3. When your legs and anklets are heavy, avoid tight, straight skirts like poison. Don't wear shiny stockings. (Turn your stockings inside out as wearing them this way will make them appear dull.) Darkish stockings are slenderizing. Don't wear your skirts too short. Be sure the skirt length is sufficient to cover the knees. The dressmaker type of bathing suit with high waistline is most becoming to you as it gives the illusion of added leg length to offset the heaviness.

4. When your legs are bowed, you should seek the sheepest, duldest stockings the town affords. Simple low-heeled shoes are your allies. Your skirts should be full (pleated skirts are wonderfully becoming to you) and should descend to the top of the bulge of the calf. Brief, full-skirted dressmaker bathing suits should be your choice.

5. If your knees are knocked, you should face the fact squarely and let the hems out of your too-short skirts. After all, no dress really looks smart when it is so short it reveals the knees and the ugly bulge at the top of the calf. The short slacks and the long shorts offer you fun and fashion in playtime clothes. Wear your bathing suits short and if you fancy exotic prints let the pattern be featured on the upper half so the beholder's eyes will be drawn away from the knees.

Romance with Strings

VIKKI PROCTOR WAS THE GIRL EVERYBODY ENVIED-- THE GIRL WHO WAS ALWAYS LUCKY-- UNTIL SHE FELL IN LOVE!

THIS MAKES YOU A VERY WEALTHY YOUNG LADY, MISS PROCTOR.

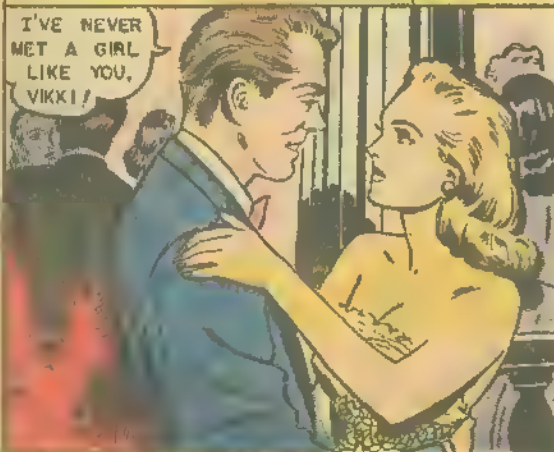
I-I GUESS POP WAS RIGHT! I'M JUST ONE OF THOSE LUCKY PEOPLE!



POP ALWAYS CLAIMED THERE WERE "LUCKY" PEOPLE, AND THAT I WAS ONE OF THEM. WHEN POP DIED--BROKE, OF COURSE--LIKE MOST RACE HORSEMEN, I LEFT SCHOOL AND GOT A JOB AS A WAITRESS. I FELT SORRY FOR A SHABBY LITTLE OLD MAN WHO USED TO COME INTO THE PLACE AND ALWAYS SLIPPED HIM AN EXTRA CUP OF COFFEE. WHEN A LAWYER CAME IN ONE DAY AND TOLD ME THE OLD MAN HAD DIED AND HAD LEFT ME SOME WORTHLESS LAND WAY OUT WEST, EVERYBODY KIDDED ME ABOUT MY INHERITANCE--UNTIL GOVERNMENT TESTING CREWS FOUND A FORTUNE IN URANIUM THERE!

I WAS WRITTEN UP IN ALL THE NEWSPAPERS AS THE "URANIUM CINDERELLA!" AND WHEN I MET ELLIOT GALLOWAY, I WAS SURE MY LUCK WAS GOOD! HE WAS RIGHT OUT OF ANY GIRL'S DREAMS, HANDSOME AND SOCIALLY PROMINENT!

I'VE NEVER MET A GIRL LIKE YOU, VIKKI!

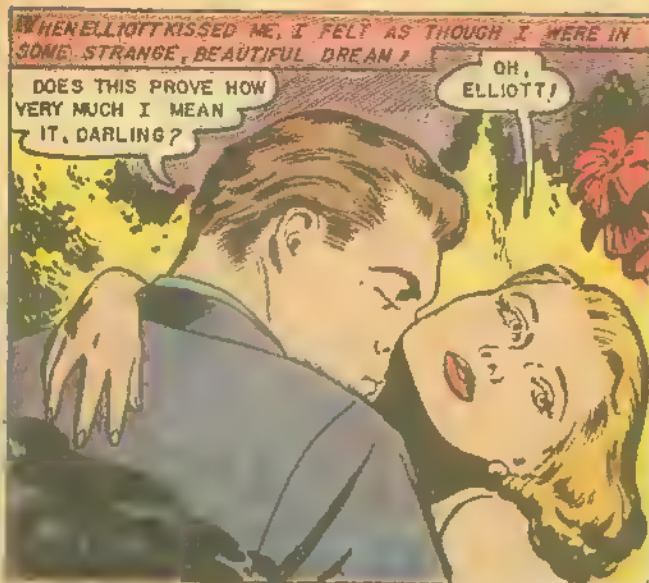


OUR ROMANCE GREW QUICKLY...

WILL YOU MARRY ME, VIKKI?

IF--IF YOU DON'T MEAN IT, ELLIOT--YOU'VE ONLY GOT A MINUTE TO CHANGE YOUR MIND BEFORE I SAY YES!

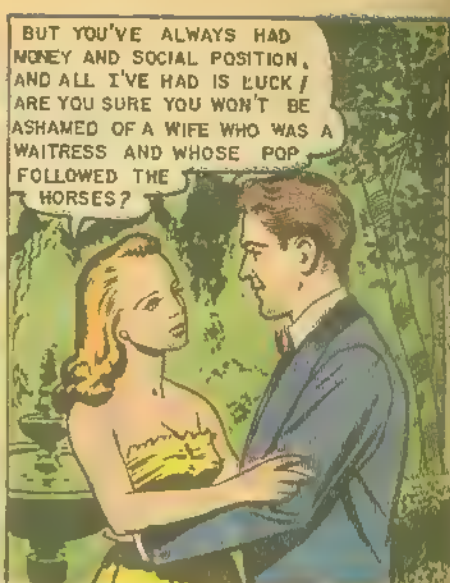




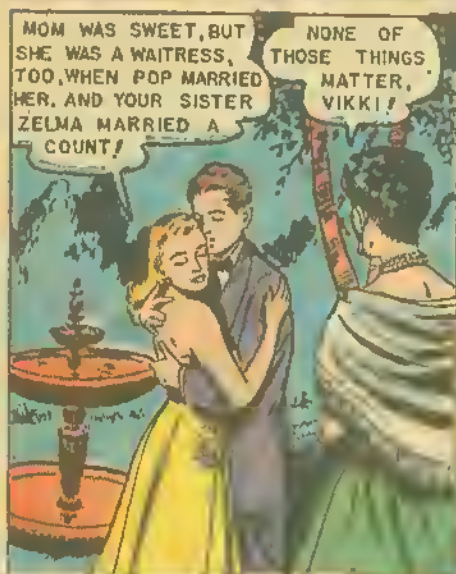
WHEN ELLIOTT KISSED ME, I FELT AS THOUGH I WERE IN SOME STRANGE, BEAUTIFUL DREAM!

DOES THIS PROVE HOW VERY MUCH I MEAN IT, DARLING?

OH, ELLIOTT!

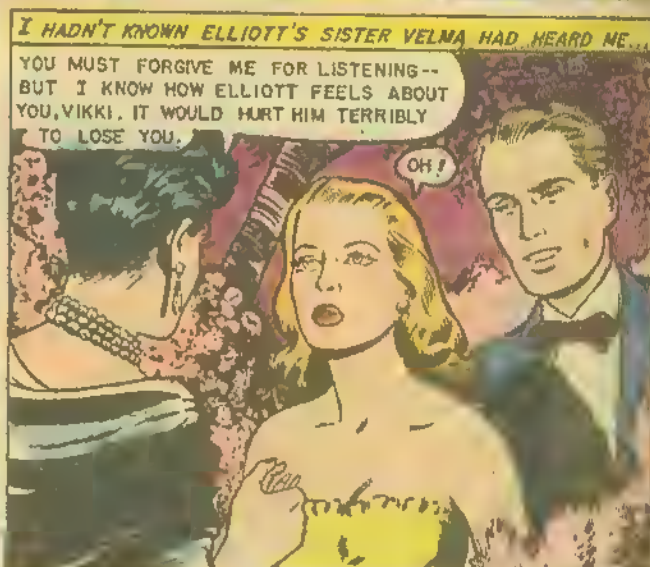


BUT YOU'VE ALWAYS HAD MONEY AND SOCIAL POSITION, AND ALL I'VE HAD IS LUCK! ARE YOU SURE YOU WON'T BE ASHAMED OF A WIFE WHO WAS A WAITRESS AND WHOSE POP FOLLOWED THE HORSES?



MOM WAS SWEET, BUT SHE WAS A WAITRESS, TOO, WHEN POP MARRIED HER, AND YOUR SISTER ZELMA MARRIED A COUNT!

NONE OF THOSE THINGS MATTER, VIKKI!



I HADN'T KNOWN ELLIOTT'S SISTER VELMA HAD HEARD ME...

YOU MUST FORGIVE ME FOR LISTENING-- BUT I KNOW HOW ELLIOTT FEELS ABOUT YOU, VIKKI. IT WOULD HURT HIM TERRIBLY TO LOSE YOU.

OH!



I MARRIED COUNT HANS DE BEAUMAN AND HAD A TITLE-- BUT MY MARRIAGE WAS A FAILURE. ELLIOTT IS LUCKIER, BECAUSE YOU'RE THE RIGHT GIRL FOR HIM!

OH, I'M THE LUCKY ONE! I'M MORE SURE OF IT NOW THAN EVER!



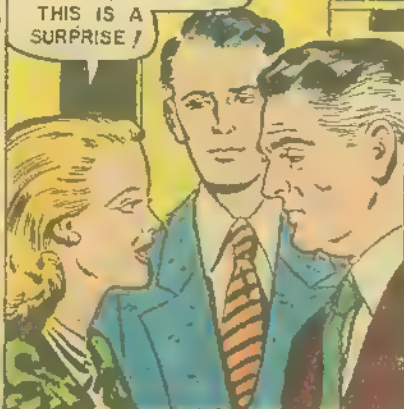
THEN WILL YOU MARRY ME SOON, VIKKI-- VERY SOON?

I HAVE A WONDERFUL IDEA. I'VE RENTED A HOUSE IN NEVADA UNTIL I GET MY DIVORCE FROM HANS. WHY DON'T YOU HAVE THE WEDDING OUT THERE!

I COULDN'T BELIEVE THIS WAS HAPPENING TO ME! I, VIKKI PROCTOR, WAS GOING TO BE MRS. ELLIOTT GALLOWAY! I DIDN'T WANT TO BE MARRIED UNTIL I HAD A BEAUTIFUL TROUSSEAU ---THE KIND OF WARDROBE THE SISTER-IN-LAW OF A COUNTESS SHOULD HAVE! AND SO WE FINALLY DECIDED THAT ELLIOTT WOULD DRIVE ZELMA TO NEVADA, AND I WOULD COME OUT LATER BY PLANE, OUR MARRIAGE WOULD TAKE PLACE JUST AS SOON AS I ARRIVED.

THEN, AFTER ELLIOTT AND HIS SISTER LEFT, MR. KLINE, THE LAWYER WHO BROUGHT ME THE GOOD NEWS OF MY INHERITANCE, CAME TO SEE ME.

COME IN, MR. KLINE. THIS IS A SURPRISE!



THERE WAS A MAN WITH MR. KLINE--- A RUGGED, GOOD-LOOKING YOUNG MAN!

I'M SORRY THE PLACE LOOKS LIKE A CYCLONE HIT IT, BUT I'VE BEEN SHOPPING FOR MY WEDDING!



I'M SORRY TO BOTHER YOU, MISS PROCTOR, BUT I FELT YOU AND THIS YOUNG MAN SHOULD MEET! HIS NAME IS STEWART ADDISON.

STEWART ADDISON! W--WHY THAT WAS THE NAME OF---



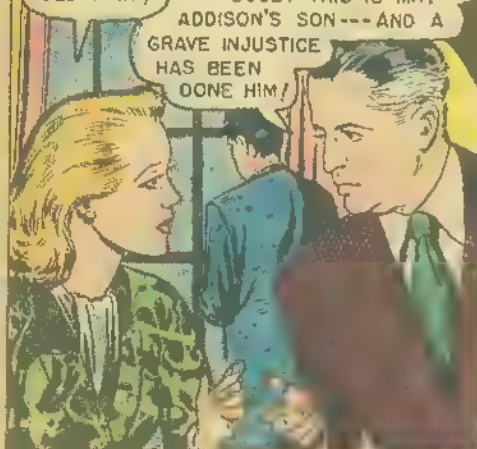
I NEVER KNEW HIM, MISS PROCTOR, BUT THE MAN WHO LEFT YOU THAT COLORADO URANIUM PROPERTY WAS MY FATHER!

OH!



BUT--BUT I UNDERSTOOD MR. ADDISON HAD NO FAMILY! HE WAS JUST A LONELY OLD MAN!

I'VE CHECKED THE FACTS CAREFULLY, MISS PROCTOR, THERE'S NO DOUBT THIS IS MR. ADDISON'S SON---AND A GRAVE INJUSTICE HAS BEEN DONE HIM!



I---I THINK WE'D BETTER SIT DOWN AND TALK THIS OVER!

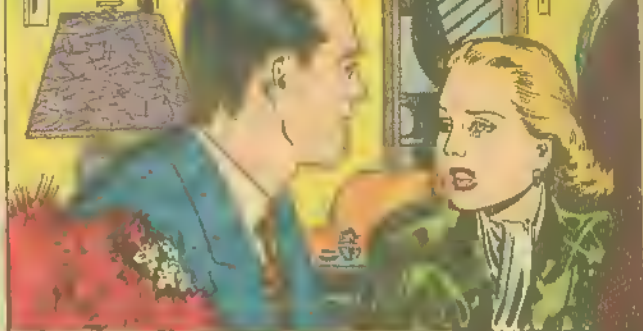


SO THAT'S THE STORY. A PROSPECTOR'S LIFE IS A RUGGED ONE, MR. ADDISON'S WIFE LEFT HIM BEFORE THEIR SON WAS BORN, THEN LATER, WHEN SHE TRIED TO FIND HER HUSBAND-- HE'D DROPPED FROM SIGHT.

WHEN MY MOTHER DIED, I AGAIN TRIED TO LOCATE MY FATHER. THEN I READ IN THE PAPERS ABOUT THE GIRL HE'D LEFT A FORTUNE TO.

I'D WORKED HARD FROM THE TIME I WAS A KID TO SUPPORT MY MOTHER AND PUT MYSELF THROUGH MEDICAL SCHOOL. NOW I'M A DOCTOR IN A MINING TOWN, I GUESS I GOT A LITTLE BITTER, THINKING HOW MUCH GOOD I COULD DO WITH THAT MONEY.

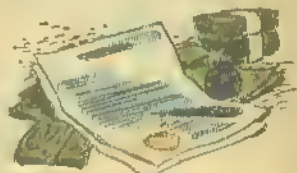
YOU'VE GOT MORE RIGHT TO IT THAN I HAVE. IT SHOULD BE YOURS!



I NEVER FELT THE MONEY WAS REALLY MINE, AND I DON'T NEED IT NOW. I'M MARRYING SOMEONE WHO CAN GIVE ME EVERYTHING I WANT!

THERE ARE LEGAL ANGLES INVOLVED, COME TO MY OFFICE TOMORROW MORNING, AND WE'LL WORK OUT SOMETHING THAT IS SATISFACTORY TO BOTH OF YOU!

IT WAS A SHOCK OF COURSE, TO KNOW THAT SOMEONE ELSE HAD A RIGHT TO THE MONEY I'D BEEN SPENDING SO FREELY. ALTHOUGH I KNEW MR. KLINE FELT I HAD A LEGAL CLAIM TO IT, I WAS DETERMINED TO GO THROUGH WITH MY PLAN TO TURN IT OVER TO STEWART ADDISON. I WAS SURE THAT WAS WHAT ELLIOTT WOULD WANT ME TO DO. I AGREED TO BE AT MR. KLINE'S OFFICE THE NEXT MORNING.



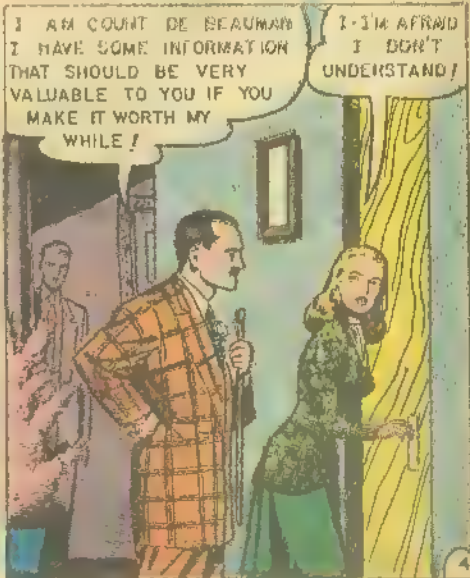
THEN, AFTER STEWART ADDISON AND MR. KLINE LEFT, I WENT FOR A WALK, HOPING IT WOULD CLEAR UP SOME OF THE CONFUSION IN MY MIND. AS I RETURNED TO THE HOTEL...

AH, THE BEAUTIFUL URANIUM CINDERELLA! I RECOGNIZE YOU FROM THE PICTURES IN THE PAPER! I HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU!

WHO ARE YOU? WHAT DO YOU WANT?

I AM COUNT DE BEAUMAN. I HAVE SOME INFORMATION THAT SHOULD BE VERY VALUABLE TO YOU IF YOU MAKE IT WORTH MY WHILE!

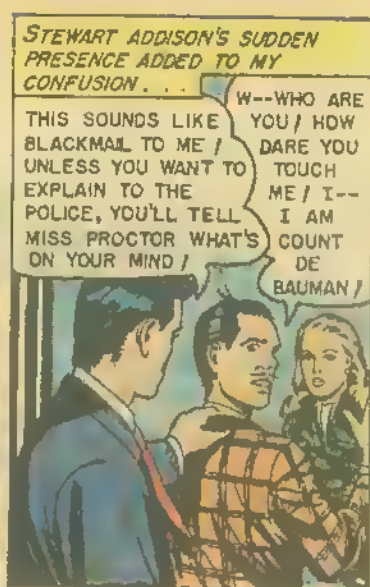
I'M AFRAID I DON'T UNDERSTAND!





LET US PUT IT THIS WAY. I AM BROKE. IF I KEEP YOU FROM MAKING A FOOL OF YOURSELF, YOU SHOULD BE WILLING TO PAY ME GENEROUSLY!

I--- I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND---AND I'M NOT SURE I WANT TO!



STEWART ADDISON'S SUDDEN PRESENCE ADDED TO MY CONFUSION.

THIS SOUNDS LIKE BLACKMAIL TO ME! UNLESS YOU WANT TO EXPLAIN TO THE POLICE, YOU'LL TELL MISS PROCTOR WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND!

W---WHO ARE YOU / HOW DARE YOU TOUCH ME / I--- I AM COUNT DE BAUMAN!



LOOK, CHUM! I KNOW A PHONY WHEN I SEE ONE! EITHER TALK OR I'LL TURN YOU OVER TO THE POLICE!

IT---IT WAS FOR HER OWN GOOD. SHE-- SHE SHOULD BE GRATEFUL.



I HEARD MISS PROCTOR WAS GOING TO MARRY ELLIOTT GALLOWAY. ZELMA FOOLED ME AS HE WILL FOOL HER. ZELMA PRETENDED SHE HAD MONEY / THEN WHEN WE WERE MARRIED, I FOUND SHE AND ELLIOTT HAVE NOTHING BUT DEBTS!



THEY LIVE ON CREDIT AND BLUFF. THEY ARE DESPERATE---BOTH OF THEM. ELLIOTT MUST GET HOLD OF MONEY QUICK. DO YOU THINK HE WOULD MARRY VIKKI OTHERWISE / A GIRL WHO HAD BEEN A WAITRESS!

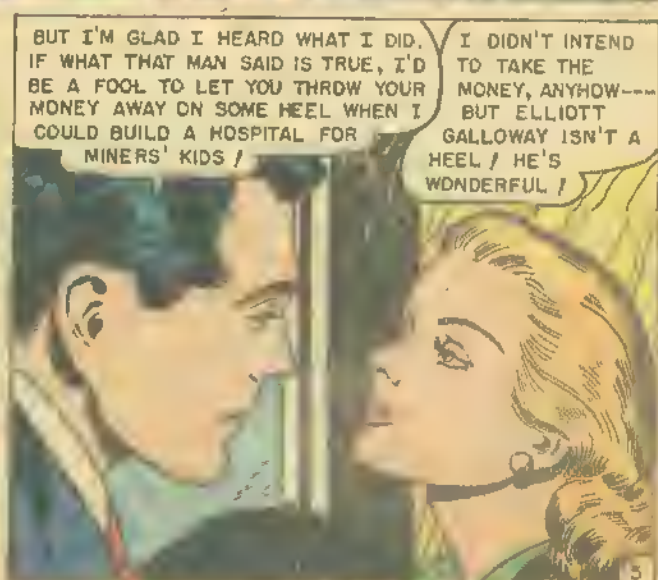
HE-- HE'S LYING / ELLIOTT ISN'T LIKE THAT / HE --- HE ISN'T!



STEWART LET THE COUNT GO THEN.

I CAME BACK TO TELL YOU I DECIDED I DIDN'T WANT THE MONEY. I WANTED YOU TO KEEP IT.

OH!



BUT I'M GLAD I HEARD WHAT I DID. IF WHAT THAT MAN SAID IS TRUE, I'D BE A FOOL TO LET YOU THROW YOUR MONEY AWAY ON SOME HEEL WHEN I COULD BUILD A HOSPITAL FOR MINERS' KIDS!

I DIDN'T INTEND TO TAKE THE MONEY, ANYHOW--- BUT ELLIOTT GALLOWAY ISN'T A HEEL / HE'S WONDERFUL!



LISTEN TO ME, VIKKI. YOU CAN'T GROW UP THE HARD WAY, THE WAY I DID WITHOUT LEARNING ABOUT PEOPLE! WHEN I MET YOU TODAY...



I KNEW YOU'RE THE KIND OF GIRL I'VE ALWAYS HOPED TO FIND. I WAS WILLING TO GO AWAY. NOW-- I'M GOING TO FIGHT FOR THE MONEY BECAUSE I'M NOT SURE THIS MAN YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH IS THE RIGHT ONE FOR YOU!

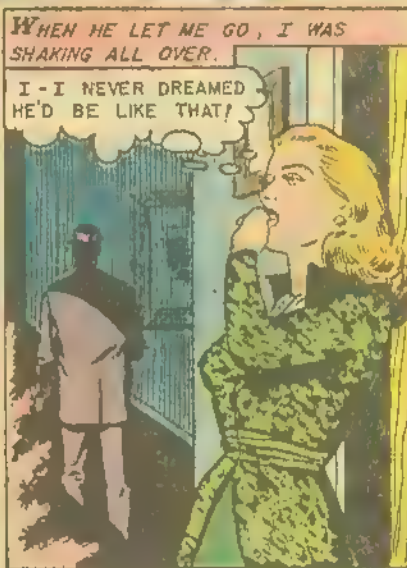
I'VE TOLD YOU OVER AND OVER I DIDN'T WANT THE MONEY! AND I DIDN'T ASK FOR YOUR OPINION ON THE MAN I LOVE! LET ME GO!



I STRUGGLED TO FREE MYSELF, BUT HE ONLY HELD ME CLOSER, AND THEN...

ALL RIGHT--I'LL LET YOU GO, VIKKI. WE MAY NEVER SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN--BUT I'LL REMEMBER THIS AND SO WILL YOU!

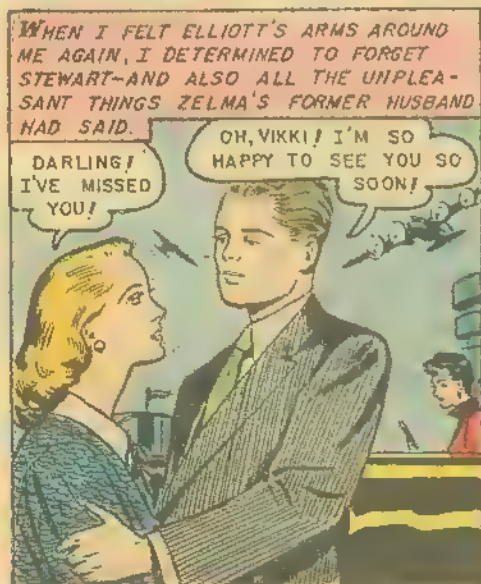
OH!



WHEN HE LET ME GO, I WAS SHAKING ALL OVER.

I - I NEVER DREAMED HE'D BE LIKE THAT!

I WANTED TO GET AWAY FROM STEWART AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. I CAUGHT AN EARLY MORNING PLANE FOR NEVADA. I LEFT A NOTE FOR MR. KLINE, TELLING HIM I WAS GIVING UP THE MONEY AND TO SEND ME ANY NECESSARY PAPERS TO SIGN.



WHEN I FELT ELLIOTT'S ARMS AROUND ME AGAIN, I DETERMINED TO FORGET STEWART--AND ALSO ALL THE UNPLEASANT THINGS ZELMA'S FORMER HUSBAND HAD SAID.

DARLING! I'VE MISSED YOU!

OH, VIKKI! I'M SO HAPPY TO SEE YOU SO SOON!



LET'S STOP HERE FOR A WHILE! IT'S ON THE WAY HOME, AND WE MIGHT AS WELL TRY A FEW GAMES OF ROULETTE.

I--I'M NOT MUCH OF A GAMBLER. I--I LEARNED FROM POP THAT IT DOESN'T PAY!

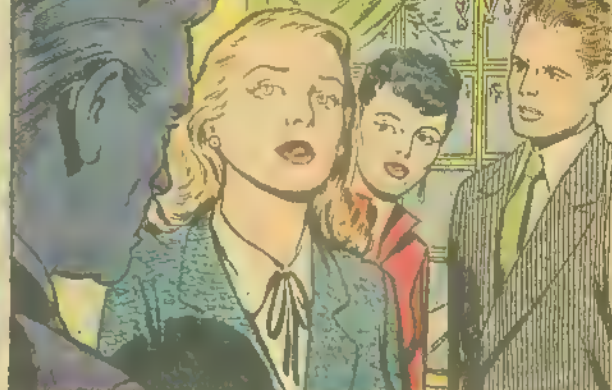
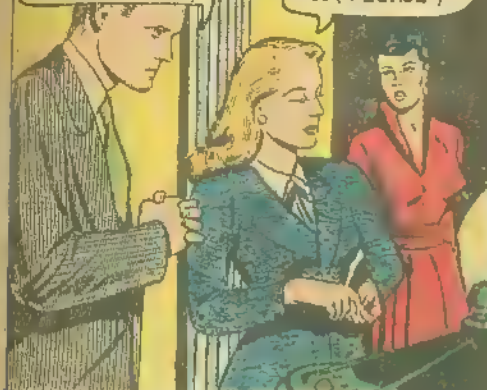
I HADN'T WANTED TO STOP. I'D WANTED TO BE ALONE WITH ELLIOTT SOMEWHERE SO I COULD TELL HIM ALL THAT HAD HAPPENED, BUT I DIDN'T WANT TO SPOIL THEIR FUN...

YOU'VE LOST AGAIN, DARLING! I THOUGHT YOU WERE LUCKY!

MAYBE I'VE LOST MY LUCK! LET'S GO, PLEASE?

WOULD YOU WRITE A CHECK FOR YOUR LOSSES, MISS PROCTOR- AND YOU COULD INCLUDE THE AMOUNT MR. GALLOWAY AND THE COUNTESS OWE!

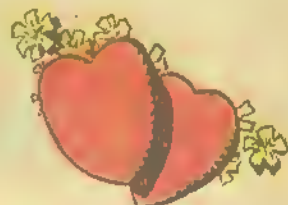
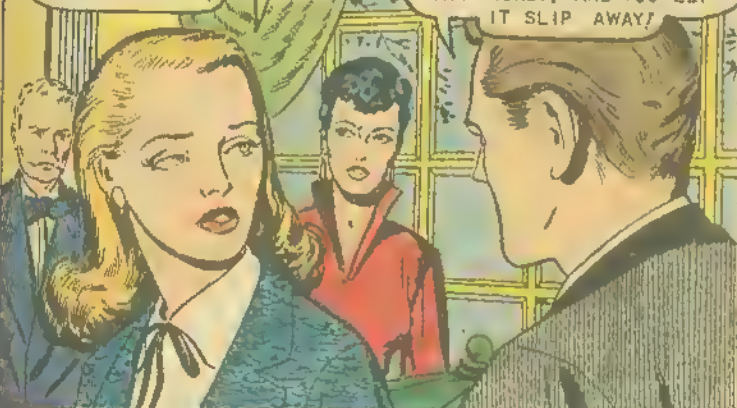
OH, YES, DARLING-- WOULD YOU MIND? ZELMA AND I ARE A LITTLE BROKE.



I'M SORRY-- BUT I'M BROKE, TOO. IT SEEMS THAT I'M NOT THE URANIUM CINDERELLA AFTER ALL! MR. ADDISON'S SON SHOWED UP, AND I TURNED THE MONEY OVER TO HIM!

WHY YOU SILLY LITTLE FOOL! DO YOU THINK I'D MARRY A LITTLE NOBODY LIKE YOU WITHOUT MONEY? W-WHY WE'VE BEEN DEPENDING UPON THAT MONEY, AND YOU LET IT SLIP AWAY!

I HAVE NO CLEAR MEMORY OF HOW I GOT BACK TO THE AIRPORT THAT DAY! I THINK ONE OF THE MEN IN THE GAMBLING PLACE TOOK PITY ON ME AND GAVE ME A LIFT. EVERYTHING HAD BECOME A NIGHTMARE, WITH ELLIOTT AND ZELMA RAILING AT ME AND THEN STORMING OUT OF THE PLACE, LEAVING ME HEARTSICK AND UNBELIEVING.



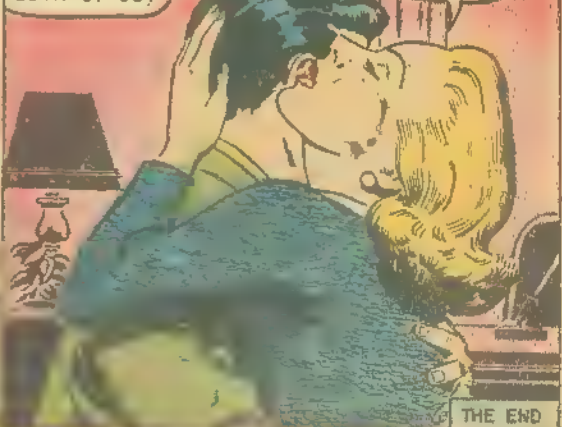
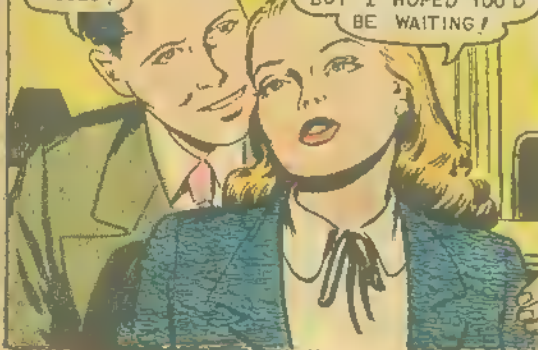
BUT ON MY WAY BACK IN THE PLANE, I REALIZED THAT MAYBE I WAS LUCKY AFTER ALL. SUPPOSE I'D MARRIED ELLIOTT, BEFORE I FOUND OUT. WHEN THE PLANE LANDED, I WENT DIRECTLY TO MR. KLINE'S OFFICE. I WANTED TO SIGN THOSE PAPERS, AND THEN LOOK FOR A JOB.

VIKKI! I KNEW YOU'D BE BACK! I HOPED YOU WOULD!

I DIDN'T REALIZE IT UNTIL NOW, STEWART-- BUT I HOPED YOU'D BE WAITING!

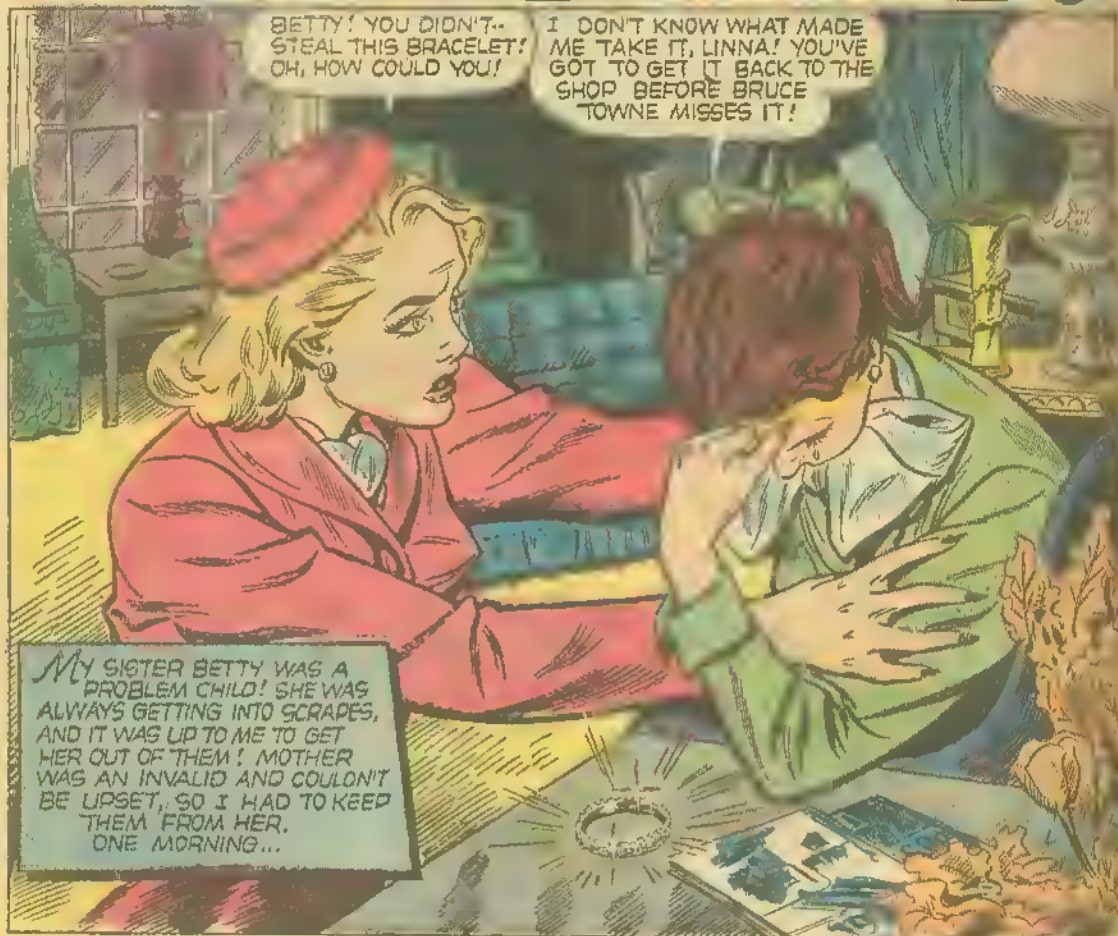
I HAD A FEELING FROM THE BEGINNING THAT IT DIDN'T REALLY MATTER WHO GOT THE MONEY, DEAREST. IT BELONGS TO BOTH OF US!

HOLD ME TIGHT, STEWART. I--I'M BEGINNING TO FEEL AWFULLY LUCKY AGAIN!



THE END

IMPULSIVE!



BETTY! YOU DIDN'T--
STEAL THIS BRACELET!
OH, HOW COULD YOU!

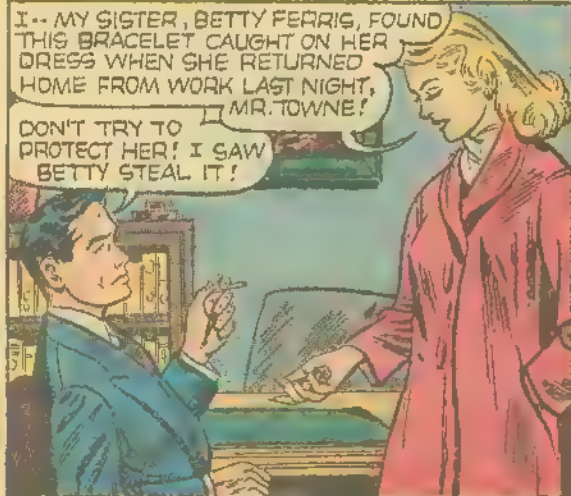
I DON'T KNOW WHAT MADE
ME TAKE IT, LINNA! YOU'VE
GOT TO GET IT BACK TO THE
SHOP BEFORE BRUCE
TOWNE MISSES IT!

MY SISTER BETTY WAS A
PROBLEM CHILD! SHE WAS
ALWAYS GETTING INTO SCRAPES,
AND IT WAS UP TO ME TO GET
HER OUT OF THEM! MOTHER
WAS AN INVALID AND COULDN'T
BE UPSET, SO I HAD TO KEEP
THEM FROM HER.
ONE MORNING...

I TOOK THE BRACELET BACK TO THE JEWELRY
SHOP WHERE BETTY WORKED...

I-- MY SISTER, BETTY FERRIS, FOUND
THIS BRACELET CAUGHT ON HER
DRESS WHEN SHE RETURNED
HOME FROM WORK LAST NIGHT,
MR. TOWNE!

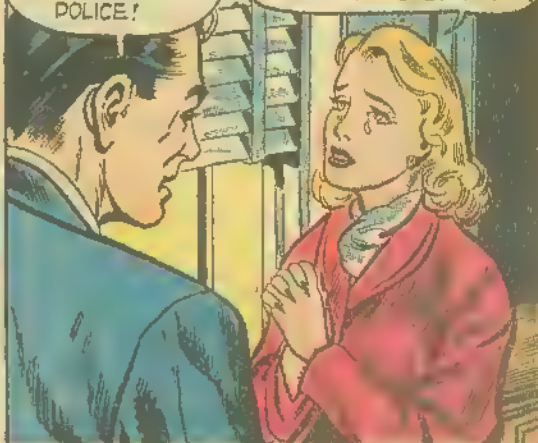
DON'T TRY TO
PROTECT HER! I SAW
BETTY STEAL IT!



HE WANTED TO SEND BETTY TO JAIL ...

BETTY KNEW WHAT SHE
WAS DOING! I'M
NOTIFYING THE
POLICE!

PLEASE! IT WILL KILL
OUR MOTHER! HAVEN'T
YOU ANY MERCY IN YOU?



HE FINALLY AGREED TO THINK IT OVER AND LET ME KNOW AT NOON! I WENT TO WORK HORRIBLY WORRIED! JACK DEAN, MANAGER OF OUR OFFICE AND MY STEADY DATE, COULDN'T HELP SEEING HOW UPSET I WAS...

WHAT'S THE MATTER, LINNA? YOU LOOK AS IF YOU'D BEEN HIT BY A TRUCK! IS THAT WACKY SISTER OF YOURS IN TROUBLE AGAIN?

OF--OF COURSE NOT, JACK! I-- JUST HAVE A... HEADACHE!

AT NOON I BROKE MY LUNCH DATE WITH JACK AND RUSHED BACK TO THE STORE...

WHAT WILL I DO IF BRUCE TOWNE WON'T LET BETTY GO FREE? IT WILL KILL MOTHER! OH, DEAR! WHY DOES BETTY DO THESE AWFUL THINGS?

JEWELRY

MR. TOWNE TOOK ME OUT TO LUNCH...

SOMEDAY YOU'LL BE GLAD I DECIDED NOT TO GIVE BETTY ANOTHER CHANCE! I MADE THAT MISTAKE WITH MY WORTHLESS YOUNGER BROTHER! IT DOESN'T PAY!

SHE'S SO YOUNG! ONLY 17! DON'T RUIN HER LIFE!

ALL THROUGH LUNCH I PLEADED WITH HIM! FINALLY...

OKAY! YOU WIN! I WON'T PRESS CHARGES! BUT KEEP YOUR SISTER OUT OF TROUBLE-- IF YOU CAN!

OH, THANK YOU, MR. TOWNE! THANK YOU SO MUCH!

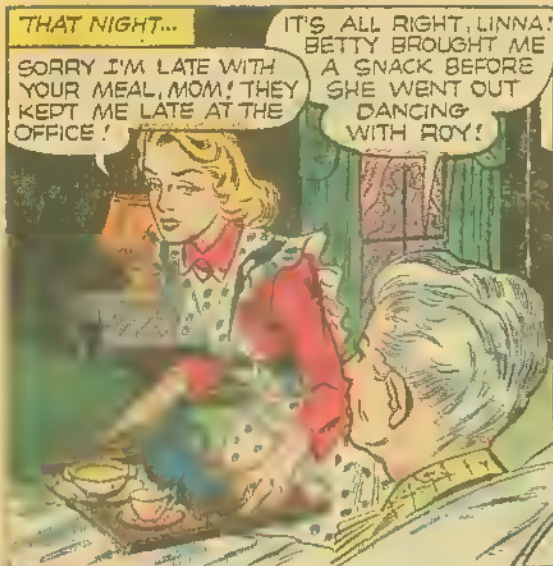
AS I STARTED BACK TO THE OFFICE--

I'M GLAD I FOLLOWED YOU! NOW I KNOW THE SCORE! I DON'T WANT A GIRL WHO TWO-TIMES ME TO GO OUT WITH A GUY WITH MORE DOUGH!

JACK, NO! IT WAS BUSINESS!

HE WOULDN'T LISTEN TO ME! LATER, AT THE OFFICE...

JACK'S ALWAYS TOLD ME IT WAS WRONG TO SHIELD BETTY! BRUCE TOWNE SAID THE SAME THING! BUT--WHAT CAN I DO? SHE'S JUST YOUNG AND FOOLISH!



THAT NIGHT...

SORRY I'M LATE WITH YOUR MEAL, MOM! THEY KEPT ME LATE AT THE OFFICE!

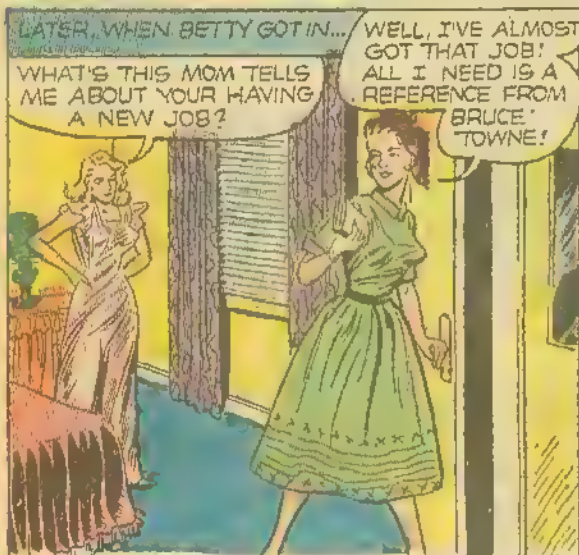
IT'S ALL RIGHT, LINNA! BETTY BROUGHT ME A SNACK BEFORE SHE WENT OUT DANCING WITH ROY!

I COULDN'T KEEP BACK A SMALL FLARE OF ANGER! BETTY HADN'T EVEN WAITED TO HEAR WHETHER I'D STRAIGHTENED OUT HER TROUBLE! SHE'D TAKEN IT FOR GRANTED!



BETTY COULD STAY HOME AND HELP US ONE NIGHT A WEEK!

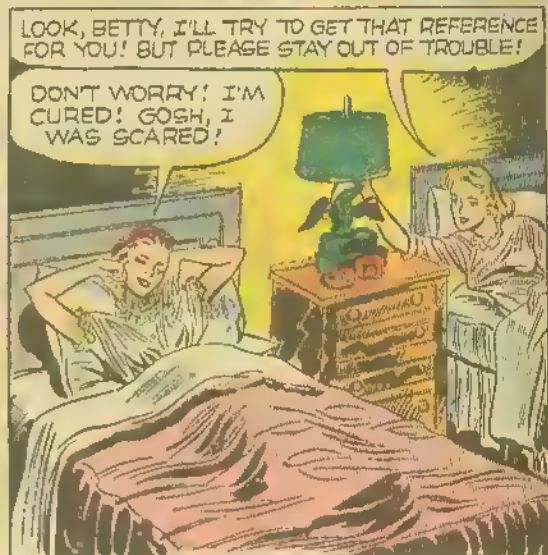
SHE'S OUT CELEBRATING! SHE GOT A GRAND NEW JOB, DEMONSTRATING BEAUTY PRODUCTS! SHE STARTS WORK TOMORROW AFTERNOON!



LATER, WHEN BETTY GOT IN...

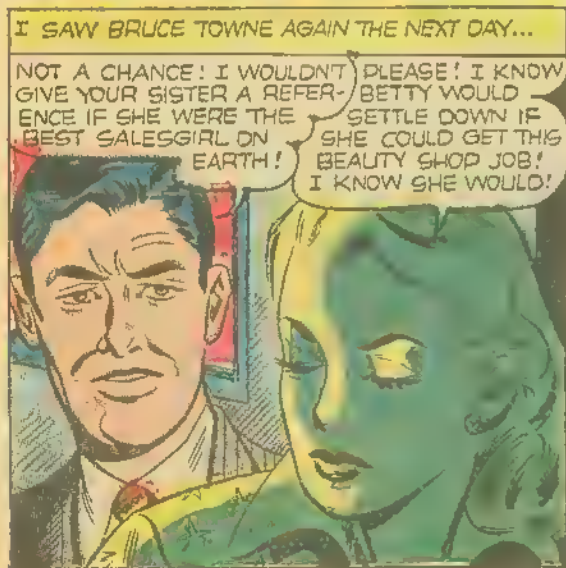
WHAT'S THIS MOM TELLS ME ABOUT YOUR HAVING A NEW JOB?

WELL, I'VE ALMOST GOT THAT JOB! ALL I NEED IS A REFERENCE FROM BRUCE TOWNE!



LOOK, BETTY, I'LL TRY TO GET THAT REFERENCE FOR YOU! BUT PLEASE STAY OUT OF TROUBLE!

DON'T WORRY! I'M CURED! GOSH, I WAS SCARED!



I SAW BRUCE TOWNE AGAIN THE NEXT DAY...

NOT A CHANCE! I WOULDN'T GIVE YOUR SISTER A REFERENCE IF SHE WERE THE BEST SALESGIRL ON EARTH!

PLEASE! I KNOW BETTY WOULD SETTLE DOWN IF SHE COULD GET THIS BEAUTY SHOP JOB! I KNOW SHE WOULD!



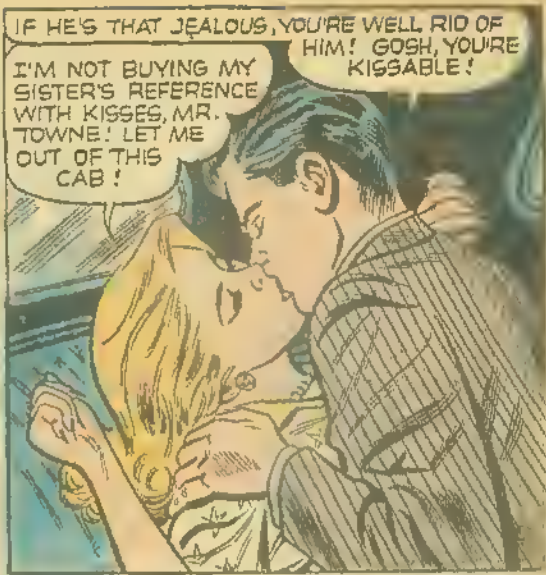
I HAVEN'T HAD LUNCH YET! COME EAT WITH ME, AND WE'LL TALK IT OVER!

NO! OH, WELL, ALL RIGHT!



ARE YOU ENGAGED OR MARRIED, LINNA?

WH-WHAT? NO, I LOST MY BOY FRIEND BECAUSE HE SAW ME LUNCHING WITH YOU!



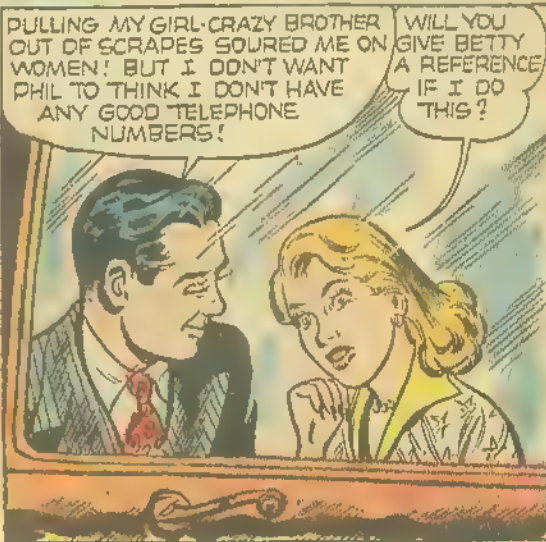
IF HE'S THAT JEALOUS, YOU'RE WELL RID OF HIM! GOSH, YOU'RE KISSABLE!

I'M NOT BUYING MY SISTER'S REFERENCE WITH KISSES, MR. TOWNE! LET ME OUT OF THIS CAB!



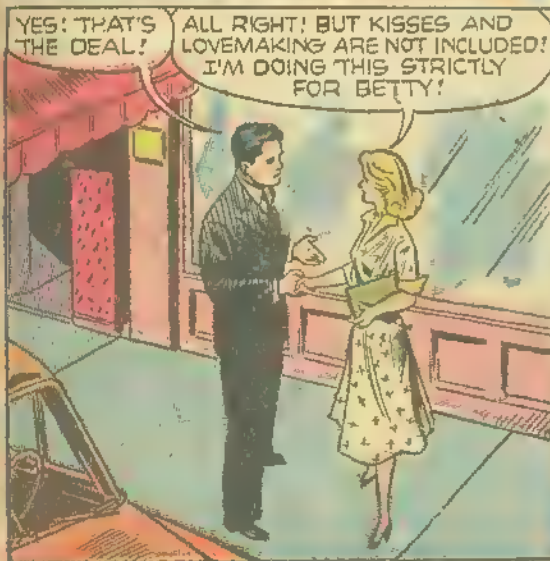
HOW ABOUT DATING ME FOR A FEW EVENINGS! A PAL OF MINE IS COMING TO TOWN, AND I NEED A DATE

FIND YOUR OWN GIRL FRIENDS, MR. TOWNE! COUNT ME OUT!



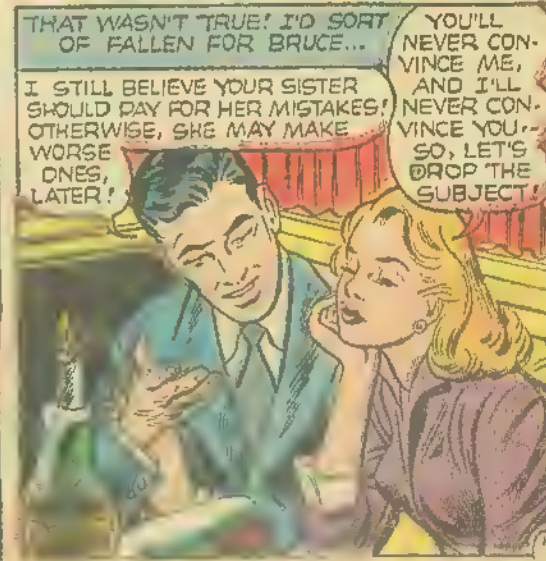
PULLING MY GIRL-CRAZY BROTHER OUT OF SCRAPES SOURCED ME ON WOMEN! BUT I DON'T WANT PHIL TO THINK I DON'T HAVE ANY GOOD TELEPHONE NUMBERS!

WILL YOU GIVE BETTY A REFERENCE IF I DO THIS?



YES! THAT'S THE DEAL!

ALL RIGHT! BUT KISSES AND LOVEMAKING ARE NOT INCLUDED! I'M DOING THIS STRICTLY FOR BETTY!



THAT WASN'T TRUE! I'D SORT OF FALLEN FOR BRUCE...

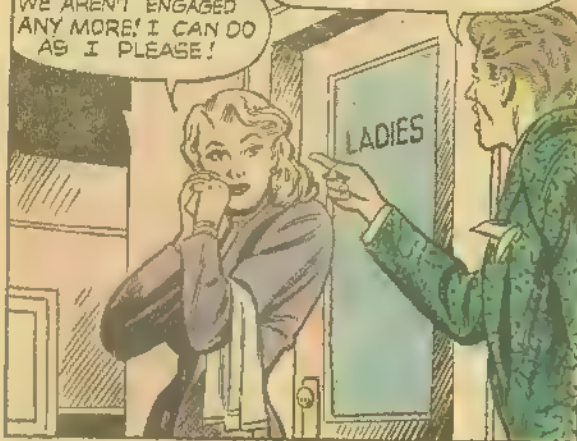
I STILL BELIEVE YOUR SISTER SHOULD PAY FOR HER MISTAKES! OTHERWISE, SHE MAY MAKE WORSE ONES, LATER!

YOU'LL NEVER CONVINCE ME, AND I'LL NEVER CONVINCE YOU-- SO, LET'S DROP THE SUBJECT!

WHEN I GOT BACK TO WORK, JACK STARTED IN AGAIN...

I KNOW YOU HAD LUNCH WITH BRUCE TOWNE AGAIN TODAY! DON'T THINK YOU CAN DROP ME SO EASILY AND GET AWAY WITH IT!

WE AREN'T ENGAGED ANY MORE! I CAN DO AS I PLEASE!



ALL MY FEELING FOR JACK WAS GONE! I'D NEVER DREAMED HE COULD BE SO VINDICTIVE...

I'LL GET EVEN WITH YOU IF IT'S THE LAST THING I DO!

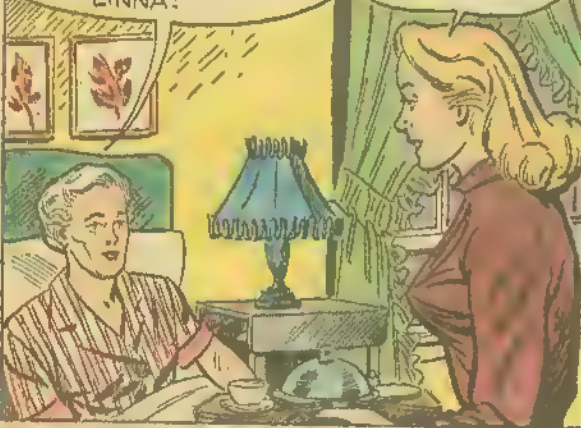
STOP TALKING LIKE A SPOILED KID, JACK!



THAT NIGHT, AT HOME...

I WAS AFRAID YOU MIGHT BE ANGRY BECAUSE BETTY IS DATING JACK TONIGHT, LINNA!

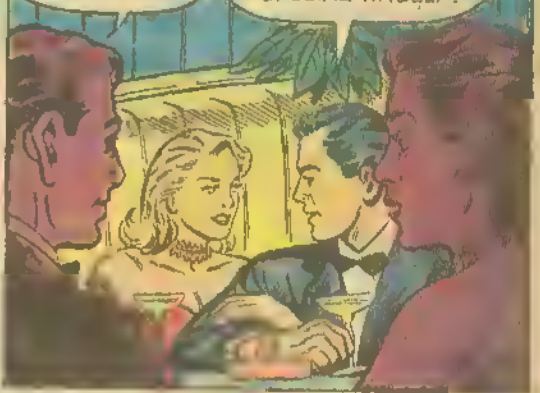
I DON'T MIND AT ALL, MOM! BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT! JACK NEVER LIKED BETTY!



I COULDN'T HELP WORRYING ABOUT WHAT JACK WAS UP TO: BUT THEN, WITH BRUCE, I FORGOT ABOUT EVERYTHING...

TRUST OLD BRUCE TO HAVE THE PRETTIEST DATE IN TOWN!

GLAD YOU APPROVE OF LINNA, PHIL! I THINK SHE'S PRETTY EXTRA SPECIAL MYSELF!



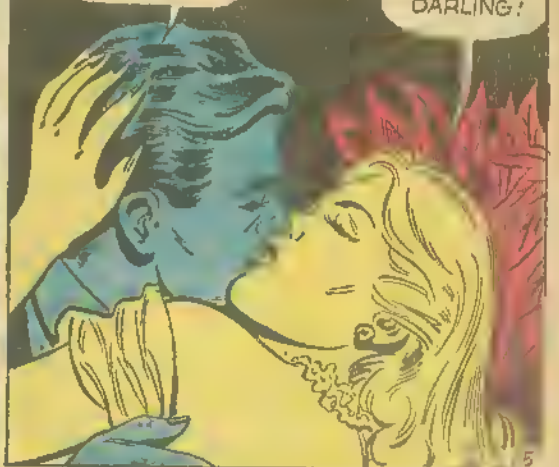
I KNOW NOW I DON'T LIKE DUTY DATES, LINNA! I'LL GIVE YOU THE REFERENCE FOR YOUR SISTER NOW! YOU DON'T HAVE TO DATE ME ANY MORE, UNLESS---

UNLESS-- WHAT?



UNLESS YOU REALLY WANT TO! I'VE NOSEDIVED INTO LOVE WITH YOU!

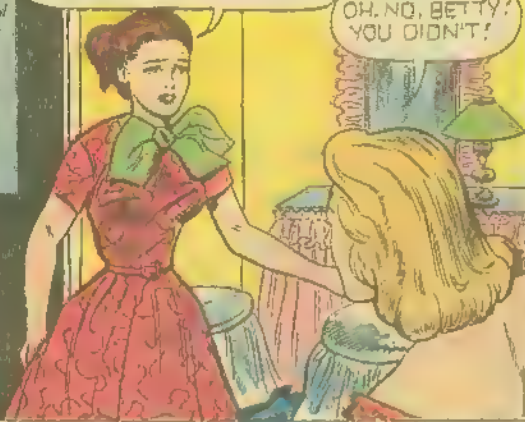
OH, BRUCE-- DARLING!



I FLOATED HOME ON A ROSY CLOUD OF HAPPINESS. BUT WHEN I GOT THERE, BETTY WAS WAITING FOR ME...

JACK GAVE ME A COUPLE OF COCKTAILS, AND THEN HE DROVE ME OVER TO BRUCE TOWNE'S JEWELRY STORE; HE DARED ME TO THROW A BASEBALL THROUGH THE PLATE-GLASS WINDOW!

OH, NO, BETTY! YOU DIDN'T!



JACK DROVE AWAY AND LEFT ME THERE! AFTER THE WINDOW SMASHED, I SOBERED UP! I BEGAN TO RUN, AND I FELL! WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF THE POLICE FIND OUT?

OH, BETTY! HOW COULD YOU?



LATE AS IT WAS, I WENT TO JACK'S APARTMENT...

WHAT A HORRIBLE REVENGE YOU TOOK ON ME! FRAMING MY SISTER! JACK, HOW LOW COULD YOU SINK?

I TOLD YOU I WOULDN'T TAKE A BRUSH-OFF, LINNA! NO GIRL WALKS OUT ON ME!

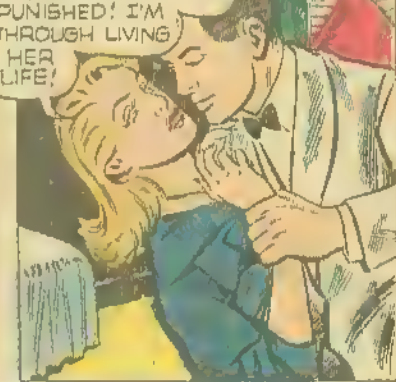
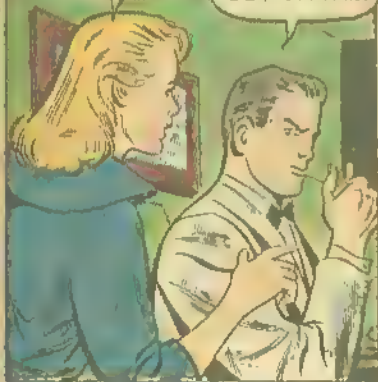
I DON'T THINK ANYONE SPOTTED BETTY AND ME! DATE ME AGAIN, AND NOBODY NEED EVER KNOW BETTY DID THIS CRAZY THING!

BRUCE KEEPT TELLING ME SOMETHING BAD WOULD HAPPEN IF I CONTINUED HELPING BETTY OUT OF SCRAPES!

JACK TRIED MAKING LOVE TO ME...

I MUST HAVE BEEN CRAZY! FORGIVE ME, LINNA! I DIDN'T THINK BETTY WOULD REALLY DO IT!

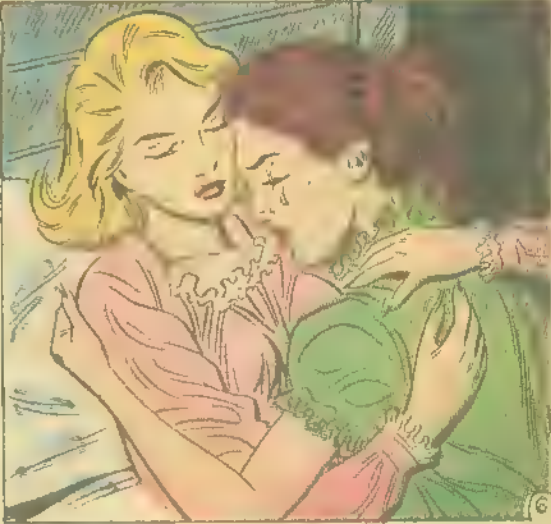
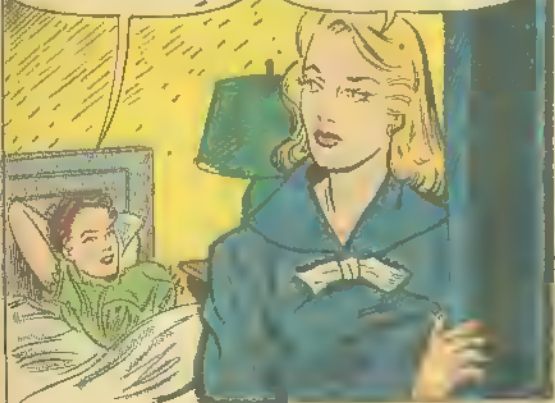
WE'RE THROUGH, JACK! I'LL TRY TO GET BETTY OUT OF THIS, BUT IF I CAN'T, SHE'LL HAVE TO BE PUNISHED! I'M THROUGH LIVING HER LIFE!



WHEN I GOT HOME...

HI, ANGEL! DID YOU FIX EVERYTHING FOR ME, AS USUAL?

NO, BETTY! TOMORROW MORNING YOU'RE COMING WITH ME TO SEE BRUCE TOWNE! I'M THROUGH SHIELDING YOU!



THOUGH, BETTY PLEADED, SHE FINALLY REALIZED IT WAS NO USE! THE NEXT MORNING...

BRUCE TOWNE HATES ME! I'LL GO TO JAIL! HOW CAN YOU BE SO HARD?

IF I'D BEEN TOUGHER BEFORE, YOU WOULDN'T BE IN THIS JAM!



UNDERNEATH, I FELT PERFECTLY AWFUL...

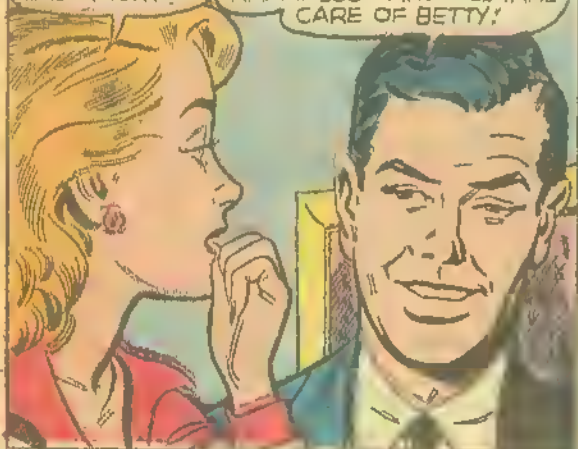
BETTY WAS THE ONE WHO THREW THAT BASEBALL THROUGH YOUR PLATE-GLASS WINDOW, BRUCE! JACK DARED HER TO DO IT-- TO GET EVEN WITH ME!

I KNOW! I FOUND HER EVENING PURSE WITH HER NAME IN IT NEAR THE DOOR!



WHY DIDN'T YOU HAVE THE POLICE ARREST BETTY LAST NIGHT?

I WANTED TO SEE WHAT YOU'D DO, LINNA! I HAD TO FIND OUT-- FOR OUR FUTURE HAPPINESS! AND I'LL TAKE CARE OF BETTY!



I'VE GOT A DUDE RANCH IN ARIZONA! YOU'VE GOT A JOB IN THE OFFICE THERE! YOU CAN RIDE HORSES AND FLIRT WITH COWHANDS AND GET SOME OF THIS NONSENSE OUT OF YOUR SYSTEM!

A DUDE RANCH? COWBOYS? OH, WHAT FUN?



BETTY'S BEEN HAPPY AT THE DUDE RANCH THE PAST THREE MONTHS. SHE'S KEPT OUT OF MISCHIEF BECAUSE SHE'S RUNNING HER OWN LIFE NOW. SHE KNOWS THERE'S NOBODY AROUND TO GET HER OUT OF A JAM, SO SHE BEHAVES HERSELF! EVERYTHING HAS WORKED OUT PERFECTLY! THE DAY BEFORE OUR WEDDING...

I'M A LUCKY GUY TO HAVE YOUR LOVE, LINNA!

WHO COULD HELP LOVING YOU, DARLING? I'M LUCKY, TOD!

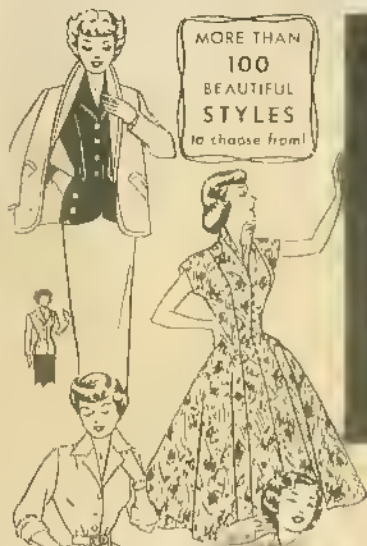


I'LL ALWAYS LIKE YOUR SISTER FOR BRINGING US TOGETHER!

YOU'RE THE MOST WONDERFUL HUSBAND A GIRL COULD HAVE! AND BETTY THINKS SO, TOO!



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